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# THE TIMES

No. 64,844

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 5 1994

Environment Minister's career hangs in balance as constituency officers meet

## 'Foolish' Yeo insists he will not quit

By Philip Webster  
Political Editor

TIM Yeo's future was on a knife edge last night as he admitted that he had behaved very foolishly over his affair with a Conservative councillor but insisted he would not be driven from office.

The Environment Minister staged his defiant attempt to save his career as party chiefs in his Suffolk constituency met to consider the disclosure that he has an illegitimate daughter. Mr Yeo and his wife, Diane, were at the meeting that would seal his fate.

Although ministers continued to rally to his support, senior Conservative sources accepted that anything other than full backing for him both as an MP and as a minister would leave him out on a limb. One said: "Tonight is not the last hurdle, but it is the highest that he has to clear."

Mr Yeo had earlier returned to work from a holiday in the Seychelles and told reporters that he had no intention of resigning. In a reference to the downfall of David Mellor and Michael Bates — both forced out in spite of having the support of John Major — he said: "I am absolutely determined that I and no further minister will be driven out of office by media pressure."

In a frank BBC radio interview shortly before last night's meeting in Hadleigh, Mr Yeo maintained that his credibility as a minister had not been damaged; he saw no conflict between his personal conduct and his position as a member of the Government. "The Government's position on family values, which is certainly one which I share, is not in any way jeopardised by anything I have done," he said.

He did not believe that people who admitted their mistakes and took responsibility for them were unfit for office, but he conceded he would have to go if he lost the confidence of the Prime Minister or his colleagues.

Sir Norman Fowler, the Conservative party chairman,

**Tim Yeo enjoys the backing of the Prime Minister. But with a hostile press on his heels, that may not be enough — as two former colleagues discovered**

has appealed for compassion for Mr Yeo, and yesterday Virginia Bottomley offered further support, saying people in government were subject to the same pressures within family life as everyone else.

Mr Yeo's main task last night was to convince his local party officers, one of whom wrote to Mr Major last week to demand his dismissal. Aldine Horrigan, the mayor of Haverhill, said that Mr Yeo should resign as a minister and possibly as an MP as well, saying a by-election was a price worth paying.

Mrs Horrigan was spurred into action by the disclosure on Christmas Day that Mr Yeo was the father of five-month-old Claudia-Marie as the result of his affair with Julia Shent, 34, a solicitor and London councillor. Asked on the PM programme yesterday about the "conflict" between his private conduct and his position as a member of a government promoting the values of the family, Mr Yeo replied: "I see no conflict. I believe that it has been accepted by my colleagues in government that my conduct has been an entirely private matter and that I expect to be judged as a minister by my performance in office."

When it was suggested that his credibility had been compromised, he added: "Of

course I recognise that I have acted very foolishly in this manner and I would not seek to deny that at all. But I do not believe that my credibility as Environment Minister has been damaged at all. I have managed to perform my tasks as a minister over the last three years, apparently to the satisfaction of my colleagues."

He continued: "What I did was foolish and I regret it and I regret the consequences of it, the distress it has caused to my family and the embarrassment it has caused to my constituents. But I do not believe that in any government there are such demanding standards that those individuals who make mistakes, who acknowledge those mistakes, who are prepared to take full responsibility for the consequences of those mistakes, should be regarded as unfit for office when it is quite clear that none of those actions have any direct relevance to the tasks which those ministers perform in government."

Pressed on what circumstances would prompt his resignation, the minister said: "If I lost the confidence of the Prime Minister and my colleagues in government, those are circumstances in which I would have to resign."

Mayor turns back, page 2  
Peter Brooks, and  
Diary, page 12



Tim Yeo facing a barrage of reporters and photographers on his return to London yesterday. Later he faced the questions of local party chiefs

## Hume calls on IRA to give up armed struggle

By Nicholas Watt, Ireland Correspondent

IRA leaders came under formidable pressure last night to abandon violence when John Hume called on the Provisionals to lay down their guns in one of the century's "greatest acts of moral courage".

Mr Hume, leader of the SDLP and standard bearer of moderate nationalism in Northern Ireland, told the IRA that the reasons for its armed struggle no longer existed. He added that he understood the IRA's difficulties in making such a move, and said that it was right for republicans to take their time to formulate a definitive response to the Anglo-Irish

declaration of three weeks ago.

In his strongest statement since the declaration, he gave the peace initiative a significant boost when he called on the IRA and Sinn Féin to pick up the "enormous challenge" of talking to their opponents. "It is a challenge that... will require from the republican movement given the experience its members have been through, one of the greatest acts of moral courage of this century," he said. "But... it is moral courage that gives real leadership and that creates truly historic opportunity."

Mr Hume, whose constitutional nationalism has given him tremendous moral authority in Dublin, the Continent and America, clearly hopes to revive the momentum for peace after the poor response to the declaration from Sinn Féin and the IRA. Gerry Adams, the Sinn Féin president, indicated on Monday night that only a united Ireland would satisfy republicans and he called against "partitionist solutions".

Mr Hume is encouraged that Mr Adams has not rejected the declaration and that he has welcomed the recognition

Continued on page 2, col 6



Julia Stent, mother of the minister's child

## Patten spells out tough school line

By Ben Preston, Education Correspondent

A DRIVE to tighten discipline in state schools by detailing the punishments available to teachers and governors was launched yesterday by John Patten.

The Education Secretary published detailed guidelines to help schools fight classroom disruption and instil pupils with traditional values of honesty, self-discipline and respect for property.

He ruled out, however, any return to corporal punishment — while admitting that he regretted the cane was banned in state schools — and urged head teachers to expel fewer pupils. He said the Government had "no magic solutions" but sought to raise standards of discipline.

The 261 pages of guidance stress the need for greater parental responsibility and say that schools should involve pupils in drawing up clear rules underpinned by a strong moral code. Local education authorities (LEAs) are advised to establish more referral units for expelled pupils, each with a mission to return them to mainstream education as quickly as possible.

The guidelines, which have John Major's support, received a lukewarm response from teachers' leaders. Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, said it was full of pious platitudes and riddled with "the wishy-washiness of the 1960s".

Teachers were also unhappy that no immediate action was pledged to protect them from malicious allegations of child abuse under the Children Act. Ministers are considering this issue separately.

At a news conference, Mr Patten was careful to avoid criticising teachers directly prior to today's publication of the Dearing report on the curriculum and testing.

Patten's beatings, page 5  
Simon Jenkins, page 12  
Leading article and letters, page 13

## Habgood condemns donor birth

By Jeremy Laurance  
Health Services Correspondent

THE use of donors to provide sperm or eggs for infertile couples is morally objectionable and should be avoided, a leading churchman says today.

In an intervention that will fuel the controversy over "designer babies", the Archbishop of York, John Habgood, says in a letter to *The Times* that the use of donated sperm and eggs is the source of the ethical dilemmas raised by new treatments for infertility. He says the public should be educated to accept that "the price of meeting a few unfortunate people's desire for children is morally too high."

Yesterday Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary, said that new techniques such as using eggs from aborted foetuses were not permissible under present laws.

Letters, page 13

## Absent Sudanese envoy told to go

By David Watts

THE Sudanese ambassador was last night given 14 days to leave Britain after Khartoum declined to reconsider its decision to expel the British ambassador. Ironically, the expelled ambassador has already left: he moved more than three months ago to New York, where he now represents his government at the United Nations.

Peter Streamer, the British ambassador to Sudan, has taken a pro-active attitude towards the Sudanese government, which has irritated officials there. The final point of discussion appears to have been the controversial visit of Dr George Carey, Archbishop of Canterbury, who cancelled a visit to Khartoum, feeling his visit would be controlled by the government, and instead visited the partly Christian south of the country.

On his return to Britain Dr Carey said Mr Streamer's expulsion was an "own goal", but African sources said that the ambassador had become an obstacle to relations between Khartoum and London.

The Foreign Office said its order for Ali Osman Yassin, the Sudanese ambassador, to leave was the "inevitable consequence" of Sudan's expulsion of Mr Streamer.

Mr Yassin told *The Times* that the expulsion order affects him only "theoretically", since he left Britain in September to take up his post as Sudan's UN representative. Mr Yassin, who served a year in London with what he says was a mandate to improve relations, had planned to present his formal farewell at the Court of St James this month.

A Foreign Office spokesman said the expulsion was a matter of considerable regret and disappointment.

Dr Carey told a press conference yesterday that the international community needed to show "greater energy and imagination" in the search for a peaceful settlement in Sudan.

Expulsion reaction, page 7  
George Carey, page 12

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## Rain-swept Kent is still on drought alert

By Kate Alderson

TORRENTIAL rains lashing southern England produced flood alerts yesterday — and a warning that Kent may face a serious drought this summer.

Although the county has had double its usual rainfall since September and many of its villages have been flooded, the National Rivers Authority said that the heavy rains will have to continue through the winter to replenish rivers in east Kent.

Graham Warren, area resources

manager for the NRA in Kent, said: "Our underground water is low and needs desperately to be topped up this winter. The water tables have been dry since 1988, and if the rivers run dry it causes serious environmental problems." He said the worst affected area was the north Downs.

After the wettest December since 1979 and the tenth wettest this century, the first four days of the year have been dominated by almost continuous rainfall in a number of southern areas. The NRA yesterday also issued yellow alert warnings on rivers in Kent,

Hampshire and Sussex as storms during Monday night caused flooding. The centre of Chichester, West Sussex, was brought to a halt as water up to three feet deep swamped shops, homes and business premises yesterday.

Forecasters at the London Weather Centre said overnight heavy rains would move northwards and engulf most of the country. "The only part of the country that will not be touched by rain is the northern tip of Scotland," The NRA said that more flood warnings were on the way because

rivers were full following heavy December rains. The average rainfall in England and Wales for December was 152mm, 62 per cent higher than the 30-year average for the month.

Weather conditions have improved since the weekend, but almost every region in Britain is still on a yellow alert, warning that minor roads and agricultural land could be flooded.

Forecasters predict that the weekend will be drier, with some freezing fog in the Midlands.

Forecast, page 18

## Post Office paper round

The Post Office wants to take over delivery of Sunday newspapers if it is given the commercial freedom it is seeking. The move is a clear sign of the new directions in which the senior managers feel that they could take the organisation.

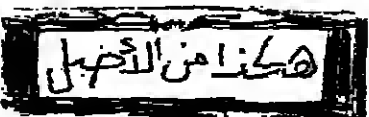
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# Graduates in big demand as job market improves

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

THE first clear signs of recovery in the depressed graduate job market have been reported by employers, who expect to have far more vacancies this year than last. Industry has yet to move out of recession, but other employers are already taking on more graduates.

Annual forecasts published by the Association of Graduate Recruiters show 83 per cent of employers optimistic about the state of the job market. More than a third of the 250 organisations responding to the association's survey expected to take more graduates over the next three years.

The number of openings for new graduates was down by 3.5 per cent in 1993, but this time last year the forecast decline was 21 per cent. The Institute of Manpower Stud-

ies, which carried out the survey, said in its report: "These trends suggest that the rapid reduction in graduate recruitment in recent years is beginning to bottom out and may be reversed."

Non-industrial organisations took more graduates last year, and are predicting 8 per cent more vacancies this year. Cuts in defence spending, widespread restructuring and the continuing effects of recession produced a drop of more than 18 per cent in the number of graduates going into industry in 1993, but this year's forecast for that sector is a 4 per cent increase.

Some firms have already raised their requirements since the survey was conducted in November. Marc Smelik, graduate recruitment manager at Barclays Bank,

said: "Graduate training opportunities in our group in 1994 are up 70 per cent on 1993, demonstrating our commitment to recruiting the best graduates to lead our businesses in the years ahead."

However, the brighter picture does not yet extend to graduate salaries. The average starting salary in 1993 was £13,004, only 1.6 per cent up on the previous year. The best paid were receiving up to £16,000, but salaries at the bottom end of the scale were almost unchanged at £11,500.

The widening pay gap reflects the changing nature of what is regarded as a graduate job. Most employers interviewed by the institute said they were taking graduates for jobs that did not require a degree.

The gap is even more obvious in comparisons of the salaries of graduates recruited in 1990. The best-paid 10 per cent now earn £23,000, compared with £14,000 at the bottom end of the scale.

In 1994 the average starting salary is expected to rise by 3.5 per cent to £13,500. The biggest increases are again expected in non-industrial jobs.

Few of the organisations surveyed experienced any difficulty in filling their vacancies last year, although some expressed concern about the number of well-qualified graduates with the personal skills they required. The main area of shortage was in scientific, technical, engineering and research posts, where more than 5 per cent of employers could not fill all their vacancies.

Scientific and technological subjects are still registering relatively high levels of unemployment. The report suggests that any shortages are of quality, rather than quantity.

Kate Crebbi Gann, recruitment manager for Marks & Spencer, who chairs the association, said: "This survey is very good news for graduates who have yet to secure employment, and for those graduating in 1994. Once more organisations start to prepare for the recovery, this improvement in graduate recruitment should accelerate."

Scotland remains ahead in the UK in the proportion of young people who enter higher education, according to figures published by the Scottish Graduate Careers Programme yesterday.

Scotland, with only 9 per cent of the population, provided 12 per cent of the total number of UK higher education places, according to an analysis of graduate employment from 1983 to 1992. In 1991, 24,400 students graduated, 34 per cent higher than eight years previously.



Aldine Horrigan: "I was an enthusiastic supporter of Tim Yeo"

## Conservative mayor turns her back on protégé Yeo

By ANDREW PIERCE

AS TIM YEO battled for his political life last night, Aldine Horrigan, the Tory mayor who demanded the minister's resignation in a letter to the Prime Minister, emerged as the kingmaker for the second time in 12 years.

Mrs Horrigan, who has led the constituency campaign for Mr Yeo to resign, was one of the moving forces behind his surprise selection as candidate in Suffolk South only weeks before the 1993 general election. Keith Stainton, 20 years MP for Sudbury and Woodbridge, which had disappeared in boundary changes, was favourite for the nomination. But Richard Ryder, now the Tory Chief Whip, emerged as a late frontrunner.

Mr Yeo, the underdog on the shortlist of three, powered through thanks in part to the vocal support of Mrs Horrigan, 59, who was on the selection panel. She said last

night: "We were a new constituency and I wanted a new and young MP. I was an enthusiastic supporter of Tim Yeo."

It was when Mrs Horrigan wrote to the Prime Minister after Christmas, urging him to sack Mr Yeo, that the odds began to be stacked against the minister. "We have still not had a reply," Mrs Horrigan said. "I am disappointed."

Mrs Horrigan, the mayor of Haverhill, the only Labour stronghold in the Suffolk South constituency, is a powerful influence in the Conservative Association. She said: "I supported Mr Yeo when it was right to do so. I have always made it clear he should go as a minister not necessarily as an MP."

But if the view of the constituency is that he should stand down altogether I have to say a by-election is a price worth paying."

Her husband Tom said:

"My wife always speaks from the hip. She was right to back Tim Yeo in 1983. She was right to have the courage to be the first to call on him to go in 1993."

Other Tories seemed to be moving in the same direction. Frances Stainton, whose husband was ousted by Mr Yeo, said that many Tories were examining their consciences.

While Tory MPs pledged their support, Robert Maitland, vice-president of Haverhill Tories, said: "We believe in traditional values; in the nuclear family. Single parents are part of the equation. Therefore any consideration about Tim Yeo's position as minister must include whether he stays as an MP."

Mr Yeo's fate was being decided last night by a committee of eight constituency officers.

Yeo defiant, page 1

## BBC romps home in Christmas race

The BBC captured nearly 70 per cent of the Christmas Day television audience. The most popular programme, BBC1's *Only Fools and Horses*, attracted 19.9 million viewers, more than three times the 5.8 million who saw the highest-rating ITV programme, the American film *Field of Dreams*. BBC1's audience share was 61.2 per cent and BBC2 attracted 7.1 per cent. ITV achieved 21.7 per cent and Channel 4 5.2 per cent.

The BBC also won the overall battle for Christmas week, attracting a 50.7 per cent share against ITV's 34.5 per cent. The audience for the Queen's speech on all four channels totalled 18.1 million, including video viewing, a further slide from 19.6 million in 1992 and 23.3 million in 1991. ITV is expected to lead BBC in the New Year Bank Holiday figures after planning its best programmes for the commercially valuable pre-sale slots.

Media, page 26

## Land Rover in US drive

Land Rover yesterday announced plans to triple sales in the US as part of a \$1 billion (£660 million) export drive by British car manufacturers including Jaguar and Rolls-Royce. Sales of Land Rover vehicles were up by 15.9 per cent to more than 4,900 in the US in 1993 while Jaguar sales jumped 50 per cent to almost 15,000. Land Rover launched its Discovery four-wheel drive at the Detroit Motor Show yesterday for an on-the-road price of less than \$30,000 (£20,000), with safety air bags, air conditioning in the front and rear seats and twin electric sunroofs.

## Murder charge dropped

A charge of murder against one of two brothers who had been accused of killing their wealthy parents more than six years ago is to be dropped. It was confirmed yesterday. Mark Newall, 27, a Paris-based banker, will be committed on January 27 only on a charge of being an accessory to murder. His counsel said at Jersey police court. Mark was remanded for a week with his brother, Nicholas, 28, a former Army lieutenant, who has pleaded guilty to murdering Nicholas Newall, 56, a Lloyd's member, and Elizabeth Newall, 47, at their bungalow on the island.

## Vengeful uncle jailed

The uncle of Nikki Allen, the seven-year-old who was murdered last year, has been jailed for three years for a machete attack on the man he blamed for gossip about the child. Gregory Prest, 31, accused David Wilkie, of Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, of spreading cruel rumours that Nikki had been begging outside a pub, Newcastle upon Tyne. Crown Court heard that Prest, who admitted aggravated burglary in an attempt to inflict grievous bodily harm, burst into Mr Wilkie's home and shouted: "I am going to get you. I am going to kill you."

## Scots dominate NHS

Alan Langlands, a 41-year-old Scot, was appointed chief executive of the NHS yesterday. When he takes over in April from Sir Duncan Nichol, Scots will occupy almost every senior position in the health service in England. They include Sir Kenneth Calman, chief medical officer, Dr Mac Armstrong, secretary of the BMA, Dr Sandy Macara, chairman of the BMA council, and Sir Robert Kilpatrick, president of the GMC. Graham Hart, permanent secretary at the Health Department, and Yvonne Moore, chief nursing officer, have served north of the border.

## Top police candidate

Bill Taylor, left, an assistant commissioner at Scotland Yard who heads the Met's anti-terrorist forces, is expected to become the new Commissioner of the City of London police. The post, overseeing a force of 800, carries a salary of more than £70,000. Mr Taylor is in his mid-40s. His name will be put before the City's police committee this month. Owen Kelly retired from the post last month.

## Player paralysed

An amateur rugby player has been left paralysed from the neck down after he was injured in a scrum accident 14 seconds after the start of a game. Alan Douglas, 26, who was playing for the West Bridgford second team on Monday, was taken to hospital in nearby Nottingham where his condition was described last night as comfortable.

## JP on theft charges

A magistrate was charged yesterday with stealing cash and property worth about £40,000 from his employers, Fannum Fleet, an Automobile Association subsidiary. Robert Wareham, 44, who sits on the bench at Andover, Hampshire, was given conditional bail by magistrates in Southampton. A committal hearing was adjourned until March.

## Guide for the 1990s

The Girl Guides embraced the politically correct 1990s by dropping any reference to the gender of their members. After 83 years, the "Guide Association" took over, complete with a revamped badge, with the "GG" replaced by a star. A spokeswoman said: "The new name reflects the fact that more than 76,000 of our 750,000 members are over 18."

## House prices up 3.3% last year

By LINDSAY COOK, DEPUTY BUSINESS EDITOR

HOUSE prices rose 0.8 per cent during December according to the Nationwide Building Society, fuelling hopes that the property revival is firmly under way. The figures for December, normally a quiet month in the housing market, meant that prices ended the year 3.3 per cent up on the previous December.

At the end of 1993 the average house price was £53,571, £438 up on November and £1,709 higher than at the end of 1992.

The figures from the second-largest building society were seen by John Wriglesworth, analyst at the City bank UBS, as the first confirmation that house prices increased in 1993. "Prices rose by twice the annual rate of inflation. A few years ago it would have been considered a mega-boom situation if house prices were increasing at double the rate of inflation," he said.

The increase reported by the Nationwide compares with an 8 per cent price fall in 1992. "This means that the fear of negative equity is receding for first-time buyers," Dr Wriglesworth said. "They will not worry that they will buy a property and find that after six months their mortgage is more than their home."

Brian Davis, the Nationwide's operations di-



Wriglesworth: fears of negative equity receding

rector, said: "The modest upturn in the economy in 1993 has led to an increase in confidence in the housing market..."

"As the economic recovery continues, we expect confidence in the housing market to continue to improve in 1994, resulting in an increase in the number of transactions as buyers take advantage of the lowest mortgage interest rates for over 20 years. This could well be translated into further price rises during 1994, probably slightly outpacing inflation."

The 1993 house price analysis by the Halifax Building Society, the largest mortgage lender, is about to be published.

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## Flood work 'worsens problem'

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

AS BRITAIN'S rivers threatened to burst their banks yesterday, an expert said that traditional flood-control schemes could make matters worse.

Professor Colin Thorne, head of the geography department at Nottingham University, was speaking as geographers gathered for their annual conference at the university. He said that evidence from all over the world demonstrated the failure of schemes that aimed to prevent flooding by deepening and strengthening river channels.

"The new channels quickly fill up with silt and the flood capacity in the end may be less than when you started," he said. "The only alternative is

to keep dredging the channel, which destroys natural habitat and creates a waste-disposal problem."

A better policy was to allow rivers to meander within a more channel that might be flooded at least once a year. "The result is that floods are controlled and a rich wetland environment created with bullrushes, reeds, nesting birds and flourishing fish life. The snag is that you have to give up some land on either side of the river, which some people may be reluctant to do."

Flood protection schemes were often unnecessary, he said. Most were designed to protect arable land that might be better allowed to return to

water meadows. The most unsuccessful flood protection schemes had been in the North West, where the rivers were vigorous enough to silt up the channels quickly. The more sluggish rivers in the South East rarely did so. "These southern rivers are incapable of recovering by themselves," Prof Thorne said. Fresh work was needed to restore them to health.

He gave a warning to people living beside rivers and to anglers. "People who want the pleasure of living by a river should be prepared to pay the price of occasional flooding," he said.

Flood alert, page 1  
Forecast, page 18

## Bank's free lunch costs £110

By IAN MURRAY

A BUSINESSMAN who was billed £110 in management charges after buying lunch for his bank manager has exposed the widely differing way in which leading high street banks charge their customers for advice.

A Consumers Association survey last month said the code of banking practice, introduced in March 1992, was a mockery. Chris Reddall, who runs a small printing and reprographic service in Brighton, said his lunchtime experience meant it was "no better than a joke". The meal for two in an Italian restaurant cost £33. The bill for the manager's time worked out at 89p a minute while they ate.

Mr Reddall has banked with the Worthing branch of



Reddall: paid for lunch twice over

Barclays for more than 20 years. "I have always had a good relationship with them and got on well with the managers," he said yesterday. "In the old days I used to take the bank manager out for a day's golfing. I had to

give that up and started taking them out for lunch, but now that will have to stop."

Barclays denied yesterday that the bill was simply to cover the lunchtime meeting. Its spokesman, Tim Baxter, said: "Our manager had to read up the file before lunch and spend a lot of time doing paperwork afterwards."

NatWest said that if Mr Reddall had been its customer it would have charged him nothing at all. Lloyds has a standard fee of £55 an hour for management consultation, and the Midland said it charged £60 an hour.

Mr Reddall is considering shifting his account, but not with much enthusiasm. "It seems to me that I will only be leaping into another sea with another lot of sharks," he said.

## Hume tells IRA to lay down its guns

Continued from page 1  
by Britain of the right of the Irish people to self-determination. In his five-page statement Mr Hume said that the declaration accepted the principles of self-determination agreed in his own peace initiative with Mr Adams.

He coupled his message to the IRA with a warning to Mr Major to stop using "insensitive and unhelpful language". Without naming the Prime Minister, he picked out phrases used by Major to warn republicans of the dangers of rejecting the declaration, such as "take it or leave it", "decontamination periods" and "gauntlets". He said: "Language of that nature is most unhelpful at a very sensitive and important time."

He also said that some republicans had been wrong to see the declaration as a settlement. "That will only come at the next stage of the process, involving both governments and all parties."

David Trimble, Ulster Unionist MP for Upper Barn, criticised Mr Hume's statement, saying: "He has a lot of explaining to do as to why his perspective has not worked out. This is his apology."

James Moynneux, leader of the Ulster Unionists, called yesterday for a security crackdown on the IRA. He told the Lisburn branch of his party: "The IRA's not-expected refusal to accept the Joint Declaration clears the way for a really effective anti-terrorist campaign."

Two bomb-disposal experts were injured by a loyalist bomb sent to the Sinn Féin office in Dublin yesterday.

## HERNIA

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# IRA men shot PC after gasworks attack, court told

By RICHARD DUCE

A POLICE officer was shot three times at point-blank range when he inadvertently stopped IRA terrorists as they fled from planting bombs at a gasworks in Warrington, an Old Bailey jury was told yesterday.

PC Mark Toker, survived the murder attempt and will give evidence against two alleged members of an IRA active service unit said to have caused three explosions at the gasworks last February.

Damage was eventually limited to the destruction of one gas holder, but John Nutting, for the prosecution, said they had "determined to cause what they no doubt hoped would be a devastating series of explosions".

Two of the bombs failed to puncture the linings of the gas holders but had they done it would have been a "major disaster with considerable loss of life among residents near by", Mr Nutting said.

In their desperation to get away from Warrington, the terrorists abandoned their Mazda van after shooting PC Toker and hijacked a car, bundling the driver into the

boot. They sped off towards Manchester but panicked and opened fire on a police car which began to give chase.

The stolen Ford Escort was then abandoned near the M62 but Patrick MacPhail was caught by a police dog and Denis Kinsella was discovered hiding in a ditch. A third man described in court as Michael Timmins escaped in the dark.

Mr MacPhail, 39, from Dublin and Mr Kinsella, 26, from Nottingham, deny a total of six charges alleging that they caused an explosion with intent to endanger life between February 24 and 27, attempted to murder PC Toker or alternatively cause him grievous bodily harm; the kidnapping of Lee Wright, attempting to murder PC Andrew Mackay and possessing a firearm with intent to endanger life.

Mr Kinsella's uncle, John Kinsella, 48, from Nottingham denies a charge of possessing Semtex with intent to endanger life.

Mr Nutting told the court how Mr MacPhail travelled from Ireland and met up with Mr Timmins, also thought to be from Ireland, at Denis

Kinsella's flat in Nottingham where they finalised plans for the attack on the gasworks. Surplus explosives for the Warrington raid were then allegedly taken from the flat by John Kinsella and hidden at his home.

Mr Nutting said the men drove to Warrington on the evening of February 24 and cut through the perimeter fence of the gasworks with petrol later found in the abandoned Mazda. They planted bombs to split open the tanks and incendiary devices to ignite the escaping gas.

Only one of the bombs succeeded in igniting gas inside a low pressure holder, sending an enormous fireball into the night sky.

The bombs were timed to explode well after the men had left but the plan began to unravel just before midnight when PC Toker stopped Denis Kinsella on suspicion of drink driving.

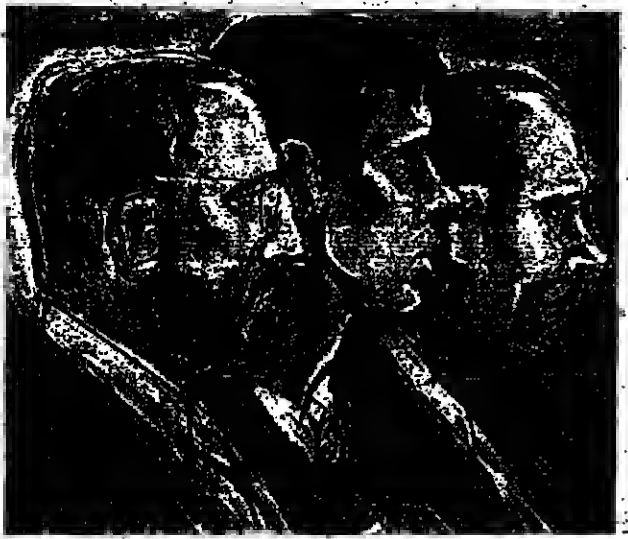
A breath test proved negative, but PC Toker insisted on checking the personal details of all three men in the van and on searching the vehicle. It was then that Mr MacPhail is alleged to have reached into the rear of the van and opened fire with a 9mm pistol.

PC Toker was shot in the leg but managed to radio for assistance as the terrorists sped off, Mr Nutting said.

Denis Kinsella drove out of Warrington to the village of Lym where the Mazda was abandoned. Lee Wright, a passing motorist, was forced from his Ford Escort at gunpoint and into its boot.

Almost an hour and a half after the shooting of PC Toker, the stolen car was heading towards Manchester when Mr Kinsella noticed a police van behind them. He accelerated, leading to a chase in which a shot was fired at PC Mackay.

The trial continues today.



From left, MacPhail, Denis and John Kinsella

## Firewoman denies bias in service

By A STAFF REPORTER

A WOMAN on the same firefighting course as another who claims sex discrimination yesterday told an industrial tribunal that all recruits were treated equally, regardless of their gender.

Debbie Bruin, 34, was dismissed from Humberdshire fire service in June 1992 when assessors decided she would not be able to complete the training course. She alleges sexual discrimination and claims she was told they did not want "another bloody woman" in the service.

Nicola Smith, a retained firefighter at the same time as Mrs Bruin, said she was treated cruelly at first, but all recruits were treated the same and had to earn the respect of other firefighters. She had not been aware of Mrs Bruin being treated differently, except that she had received more help.

Mrs Smith said she believed extra pressure to succeed was put on Mrs Bruin, a housewife from Beverley, by her husband. But she simply could not do the job. "She had every opportunity, there was extra training given," Mrs Smith told the hearing at Hull. "Women at Beverley station are not a novelty."

Barry Parsons, a divisional officer who investigated complaints by Mrs Bruin, also said she had been given "every opportunity". The hearing was told that she got stuck crawling through a metal tube that had been specially manufactured to assist her during a breathing apparatus test. The case resumes today.

## Fostering ban on fertility drug wife

By PAUL WILKINSON

A COUPLE have been turned down as foster parents because the wife is undergoing fertility treatment. Social services officials said the decision was made because the couple might consider a foster child second best if they have a child of their own.

Philip Eastwood, 33, a police constable, and his wife Nicholas, 31, a nursery nurse from Brighouse, West Yorkshire, believed they were ideal candidates when they applied to Calderdale council to become foster parents.

Mr Eastwood said: "I would have thought that our desire to have children of our own would have made us just the sort of couple they were looking for. We have a nice home, no financial worries and we have a great deal of love to give to children who might otherwise spend their lives in the care of the local authority."

When the couple, who have been married eight years, told

the Calderdale fostering and adoption unit that Mrs Eastwood had started using fertility drugs three years ago, their application was rejected. Mr Eastwood said he was told that if they wanted to be considered, his wife would have to stop treatment.

Calderdale decided in 1982 not to accept women taking fertility drugs after a girl aged two was killed by her foster mother, who was receiving treatment. Marel Denton, Calderdale's director of social services, said: "We cannot take the risk of that happening again. The decision is not just based on the bad experience in Calderdale, but also on national research. This shows couples having fertility treatment are under tremendous emotional stress, which can cause a lot of tension."

Habgood plea, page 1  
Diary, page 12  
Letters, page 13



The Eastwoods rejected because of fertility treatment



Rain and the first day of the entrance charge to Windsor Castle precincts fail to dampen the enthusiasm of a busload of visitors

## Curious visitors pay £8 to see fire-damaged castle

By ALAN HAMILTON

MORE than 1,000 hardy souls braved foul English weather and an £8 entrance charge yesterday to visit Windsor Castle on the first day that the curious masses had to pay at the gate.

Until now, entry to the precincts of the world's largest and oldest inhabited castle has been free, although there has always been a charge to see its innermost attractions, St George's Chapel and the State Apartments. The castle authorities insist that the new overall charge, for those who wish to see everything, is a saving of £1.

Not everyone who queued in the rain yesterday took such a charitable view. A party of 40 German students from Dortmund who would have been first through the portals turned and left when they discovered the new charges. "This is a protest march: the royal family's ancestors would have understood," Jens Scheiler, 19, muttered darkly.

Rainer Hatzky, the German students' teacher, said: "It is too much for my students to pay. There is no

discount for parties or students, which is unfair. I think the Queen has enough money to pay for the repairs without charging people like us."

As with the opening of Buckingham Palace last summer, the new charges at Windsor are a direct result of the Queen agreeing to shoulder 70 per cent of the restoration bill for the Windsor fire, the total cost of which is estimated at between £30 million and £40 million.

Michael Peat, director of finance for the Royal Household, has estimated that the new castle entrance charges should contribute £1.25 million to the fire fund in their first year.

The new charge includes everything except Queen Mary's Dolls' House, which still costs an extra £1.50. The castle authorities offer a £25 annual season ticket, and local residents can apply for free passes.

The first tourists to pay the new charge were a Japanese couple who seemed bemused by the media attention. Not far behind them Nik Solech-

niki, a Russian who works at Egham, Surrey, declined to part with any money when he discovered the new arrangements. "I have been here before, but I certainly won't pay the fee today. What is the point? People should be allowed in the grounds free because that does not cause any wear and tear."

Ruth Wells, from Wokingham, Berkshire, brought her two children to see the castle but decided the new charge was "a rip-off" and turned away in the direction of a nearby McDonald's. But Jeff and Vivien Walsh from California took a kinder view: "If this money helps to restore the fire damage, we don't have any problem at all. This is a unique place, and it should be preserved."

Dickie Arbiter, spokesman for Royal Collection Enterprises, said the day's paid attendance at Windsor was 32 per cent up on the same day last year, and 95 per cent up on the equivalent day in 1992. A chance to peer through glass doors at the fire devastation was an added attraction.

## Five brothers found living in squalor

By PAUL WILKINSON

FIVE brothers, aged from six months to six years, have been found living in a house described by a social services leader as "a toilet". The baby was in a badly soiled nappy and suffering from severe nappy rash and the others were covered in excrement which covered the floor.

Police were last night searching for the children's 22-year-old mother who fled when they called. The alarm was raised by the six-month-old child who had gone to see his son at the house in Seacroft, Leeds, on Sunday night.

Yesterday he was granted temporary custody of the baby while the other children were being looked after by a foster couple.

Michael Simmons, the chairman of Leeds social services, said: "This would rank among the worst cases of its kind I have ever come across."

They were found in appalling conditions. There was excrement all over the floor and stairs and the children's feet were covered in it. The whole place was a toilet."

He said the family was well known to social services and the children had been taken into care before. The four oldest, aged six, four, three and two years, have been placed with Francis and Christine Donbavand, who won Relate's 1992 Family of the Year award. Mrs Donbavand, 41, from Leeds, said when the children arrived they stank of urine. "They did nothing but cry nearly all night. My eldest daughters got out of their own beds to sleep near them because they wouldn't let go of them, but now they are all smiling."

Leeds social services will be seeking an interim care order today to allow time to consider the children's future.

## Convoy veterans win fight to wear Russian medal

By MICHAEL EVANS  
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THOUSANDS of Second World War veterans who had been barred by the Foreign Office from wearing the Russian Commemorative Medal in honour of their role in the Arctic convoys can now display it next to their campaign medals — by order of the Queen.

The change of heart by the Foreign Office and the official approval by the Queen for unrestricted wearing of the Russian medal came after a personal appeal to the Palace by Admiral of the Fleet Lord Lewin, a former Chief of the Defence Staff.

After the former Soviet Union

issued the medal in 1985 to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Great Patriotic War, the Foreign Office ruled that eligible British veterans who served on the convoys or operated from bases in the Soviet Union would be allowed to accept it as a "souvenir or keepsake" but not to wear it as an official award.

The ruling was based on a decree by King George VI in 1951, under which foreign medals awarded for services dating back more than five years could not be approved by Whitehall because of the difficulty of checking through war records to see who was eligible.

Ministers have also recently stated that service on the Russian convoys

had been recognised by the award of the Atlantic Star. This was always disputed by the Arctic veterans.

About 14,000 convoy veterans and other wartime servicemen, including members of RAF fighter and bomber squadrons which operated from north Russian bases, are known to have received the Russian Commemorative Medal.

Only the Queen could give permission for the medal to be worn, but the Palace was not involved in the decision to ban it. Last night, approval was granted in recognition of the "changed relationship" between Britain and Russia.

In his appeal to the Queen and the Foreign Office, Lord Lewin cited the

precedent of the commemorative medal issued by the Maltese government in 1991 on the 50th anniversary of the award of the George Cross to Malta. The Queen had accepted an invitation to visit Malta the following year and the Foreign Office advised that permission to wear the medal should be granted to British veterans who served in Malta and were eligible for the award.

He also said that a number of British servicemen had been given special awards for their part in the Russian convoys and in RAF missions in north Russia and were allowed by George VI to wear the medals, such as the Order of Lenin and the Order of the Red Banner.

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# Son screamed for mercy as 'voices' told mother to kill

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

A BOY on a register of children at risk was heard screaming for mercy shortly before he and his sister were killed by their mentally ill mother, the Old Bailey was told yesterday.

Sharon Dalsen, 24, of Tottenham, north London, was sent to Rampton high-security hospital indefinitely after admitting the manslaughter of her son Jason, 6, and daughter Natalia, 5, on the ground of diminished responsibility.

Martin Heslop, for the prosecution, said that social workers had not applied for a

formal care order for the children, whose mother suffered from acute psychotic schizophrenia and heard voices ordering her to kill. Instead, they approved an informal arrangement for them to live near by with their grandmother. Effectively, they continued to live for much of the time with their mother.

The children were found naked in bed in August 1992. Jason had been strangled and Natalia suffocated.

Mr Heslop said: "It is clear that the children spent much of the time back at home living

with their mother, a fact that was reported to the social services. But it seems they took no steps to ensure they were returned to the grandmother."

Neighbours later blamed social workers for allowing the children to fall through the safety net. Della Sanchez, 56, said: "There were sure signs that she wasn't in her right mind and they should have acted. They looked like happy children, but they were very frightened of their mum."

Mr Heslop told the court that, in the days before the killings, neighbours heard harrowing screams from the children. He said that Dalsen had a long history of psychiatric problems and came to the attention of Haringey social services in September 1988. The children were put on an at-risk register.

In February 1992, Dalsen was made the subject of a hospital order after threatening to wound herself and the children.

Eleven days before he died, Jason was heard shouting: "No Mummy, please, no." But police answering a 999 call found everything apparently normal.

Just before the children died, Jason gave another terrible cry. Screaming lasted 15 to 20 minutes.

Police found gas escaping in her home and plastic bags put against a door. She had written a letter to her mother asking for herself and her children to be buried together.

Dalsen said: "The voices, they made me do it. Oh God, I have killed them. They made me, it was not me." She had attempted to hang Jason, probably with a loudspeaker wire, before strangling him.

Toby Harris, leader of Haringey council, said after the case: "It's clear, with hindsight, there are a number of things that might have been handled better. We want to learn something from the case to ensure loopholes are closed."

A council spokeswoman said that recommendations from an independent review, commissioned after the deaths, would be adopted.

## CSA ignores review pleas from father

BY KATE ALDERSON

A DIVORCED father who appealed twice to the Child Support Agency for a review of his increased payments received a bill for more than £2,000 on Christmas Eve.

His appeals were ignored and he has been warned that he must pay by January 15 or the money will be taken directly from his salary.

The agency said yesterday that the written requests for a review by James Hart, of Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, had been ignored twice. A spokeswoman said: "It appears to be the case that he has not had a reply, in which case we would apologise."

Mr Hart, 27, said he has been made to feel "like a criminal living in fear". He said he made his first appeal to the agency's Dudley branch in the West Midlands, his former wife's local office, in October after he had been told his monthly payments were to rise from £175 a month to £345.

He did not receive a reply and sent another request for appeal in November by recorded delivery. The agency sent him a letter, misspelling his surname, saying it had received his "complaint" and would reply within ten days.

Mr Hart heard nothing

until he received a bill for £2,004 in backdated payments. No reference was made to his two appeals.

Mr Hart was divorced from his wife Melissa in California in 1992 and under a legal agreement has paid maintenance since that date. They sold their house and other assets and agreed that Mrs Hart should receive £50,000 of the £60,000 total.

The Bankruptcy Association of Great Britain and Ireland said yesterday that hundreds of people are expected to declare themselves bankrupt by the end of the year because of pressure from the agency.



Hart's agency failed to answer written requests

## Education Secretary spares the rod — but regrets its passing



John Patten yesterday, announcing his new blueprint for problem pupils, which does not include a return to corporal punishment

## Why Patten the schoolboy needed a beating

BY BEN PRESTON  
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

John Patten, the Education Secretary, yesterday regretted the passing of corporal punishment in schools, and disclosed that he had been "flogged" once or twice by his Jesuit schoolmasters.

Mr Patten joined such illustrious politicians as Winston Churchill and Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, who flourished in the parliamentary bearpit after being beaten or administered the cane at school. However, Mr Patten will be one of the last.

Today the swish of the cane, once as traditionally English as the sound of leather on willow, rarely echoes across the quadrangles of Britain's most famous private schools.

Only a handful of the 2,500 independent schools are believed still to use corporal punishment, outlawed in state schools in 1987 after a decision by the European Court of Human Rights. At least 300 independent

schools with assisted-place pupils are also banned from using it.

Hulme Grammar School in Oldham is one of the last schools in the elite Headmasters' Conference group that retains the option of beating its pupils. Geoffrey Dunkin, the headmaster, has caned six boys in seven years at the £3,000-a-year boys' school.

Mr Dunkin said: "It is a symbolic punishment that does not reduce boys to a gibbering wreck like the cat o' nine tails. It is used for serious offences, such as theft or where the police would be involved, as an alternative to expulsion."

"Everyone knows it is there in the background if necessary — like the hydrogen bomb, it is the ultimate deterrent."

On the infrequent occasion that Mr Dunkin administers three strokes of his cane to a miscreant's hand, he follows a strict procedure to reduce the chance of any legal challenge. The consent of both pupil and parents is always secured, the punishment is

witnessed by another teacher and details are carefully recorded in a punishment book.

Arthur Hearndon, general secretary of the Independent Schools Joint Council, said corporal punishment was "virtually non-existent" among its 1,400 member schools. The climate of opinion among parents and teachers was that caning was no longer appropriate, he said. "The proof of the pudding is that it hardly happens any more."

Dr Hearndon said that those few schools which retained corporal punishment often did so as a point of principle, refusing to abolish the cane formally simply because they did not like being told that they should. An attempt to extend the ban on physical punishment to all private schools was defeated by seven votes in the House of Lords last summer.

Mr Patten, who attended Wimbledon College in west London, formerly a grammar school, told a Loodoo

news conference yesterday that although he never administered corporal punishment, he was beaten. "I did experience it once or twice," he said. "The Jesuits flogged me from time to time. I remember it started because I had difficulties with the proof of the second theorem and it went on."

Samuel Johnson would have approved. He wrote in 1775: "There is now less flogging in our great schools than formerly, but then less is learned there, so that what the boys get at one end they lose at the other."

But Peter Newall, of the campaigners Eod Physical Punishment of Children (EPOCH), said: "We welcome Mr Patten's confirmation that corporal punishment is a 'dead issue'. One leaves it to the public to decide whether it did him any harm."

Schools code, page 1  
Simon Jenkins, page 12  
Leading article and Letters, page 13

## Pay-as-you-drive trial to start next year

BY TIM JONES  
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE M25, Europe's busiest motorway, may become a testbed for the Government's plans to make drivers pay for using motorways.

John MacGregor, the Transport Secretary, said yesterday that, after laboratory tests, trials would take place on a motorway next year. Once the technical problems had been solved, charging could be introduced on the 1,400-mile network by 1992.

Mr MacGregor's aim is that before charging is introduced, the technology has to be virtually foolproof. The M25,

which carries up to 12,000 vehicles an hour on some sections, would present the greatest challenge to electronic toll technology.

Various systems will be fitted to 2,000 cars and lorries which regularly use motorways before a final decision is taken. More than 100 technology companies that want to share what could be a highly profitable venture have approached the transport department with their ideas.

Mr MacGregor said that although one version of electronic tolling was in place on the second Dartford crossing, the system was not sophisticated enough to cope with

motorway traffic. "We have taken the decision in principle and said we will go ahead, but the technology is not yet available for British conditions," he said. The plan would require legislation in Parliament, he said on the BBC Radio 4 programme Today.

Once the technology has been mastered, motorists can expect to pay about 1.5p a mile and lorries about 4.5p a mile. Mr MacGregor said that pricing was a sensitive issue, as pitching charges too high could force thousands of vehicles off motorways and on to "rat run" routes through towns and villages. He hoped

electronic charging would raise about £700 million a year for Britain's roads, which threaten to be swamped by traffic increases of up to 60 per cent by 2010.

The Transport Secretary has ruled out toll booths as causing intolerable delays and taking too much land. He has also discounted windscreen display tickets, for which every motorist would be charged, on the ground that they would be unfair to those who rarely or never use motorways.

He said it was expected that the technology would be fully available and the infrastructure in place by about 1998.

## KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE  
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

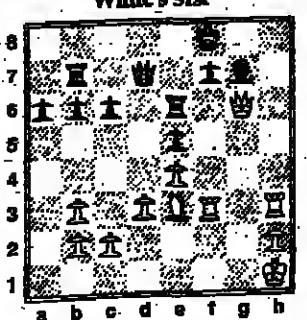
### Nunn Shall Pass

IN the battle for the leadership at Hastings, the UK's premier all-play-all grandmaster tournament, Dr. John Nunn of London has passed the Russian Grandmaster Mikhail Krasenkov after the sixth round. Krasenkov could only draw against Sherbakov while Nunn won a game of superbly controlled aggression against the Indian Grandmaster Barua. The climax of Nunn's attack came with the demolition sacrifice 31 Rh8, which ultimately forces Black to give up his queen for insufficient compensation.

White: John Nunn  
Black: Dibyendu Barua  
Hastings Premier, December 1993

Sicilian Defence	
1 e4	g5
2 Nf3	Ng5
3 Nc3	Nf6
4 Bc5	Nd4
5 Be4	Nc3+
6 Qd2	Qd5
7 Qd3	h6
8 Qe2	Be6
10 Bb3	Bxb3
11 exb3	g6
12 f4	Bg7
13 b5	Qe5
14 Qd3	Qd7
15 Bc3	g5
16 Kh1	Ne7
17 Qd3	h5
18 Rf3	O-O
19 g4	h4

Diagram for position after White's 31st



31 Rh8+  
32 Bf7+  
33 Rxf7+  
Black resigns

Round six results  
Hobden - Hemming Draw  
Nunn - Barua 1-0  
Rogers - Gurevich 0-1  
Sadler - Arakhamia 0-1  
Sherbakov - Krasenkov Draw  
Scores after six rounds:  
5 Nunn  
4.5 Krasenkov  
3.5 Hobden, Arakhamia  
3 Gurevich, Hemming  
2 Sadler  
2 Barua  
1.5 Sherbakov, Rogers

Winning Move, page 36

## Worried women make it to the top

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

ANXIOUS and introverted women are more likely to succeed in the male dominated world of business and the professions than their more relaxed and outgoing peers, psychologists reported yesterday.

Women have more difficulty gaining promotion than men, but those who succeed in penetrating the "glass ceiling" into higher management have better personal and professional skills than the average male manager.

The findings, presented to a British Psychological Society conference in Birmingham yesterday by researchers from the University of Central Lancashire, show that contrary to current belief women do not have to adopt masculine stereotypes to succeed. The typical male manager is extrovert, dominant and adopts a tough pose, but his female counterpart is likely to be quieter and more restrained as well as having better interpersonal skills.

However, high-flying women frequently have hostile relationships with their mothers, according to an investigation by psychologists at Liverpool and Manchester Universities. Almost half the women studied said they had either remote relationships with their parents or a poor relationship with their mother.

Other research has shown that the loss of or separation from a parent has helped high fliers to develop an ability to cope alone.

"It would seem that early separation from parents facilitates the development of a separate sense of identity which in turn engenders a high need for achievement and a need to have an independent impact on the environment," Dr Barbara White and Professor Cary Cooper suggest in a paper for the conference.

Their investigation found that more than a third of the women were dedicated to a career from an early age. In others, this dedication was delayed until they had rejected the role of housewife or separated from their partner.

Only one in five of the women felt their family took priority over their working lives. Half had children, whom they said provided them with a "stable base", and did not see work and family as being mutually exclusive.

Job-seekers who admit personal failings are more likely to be successful than "arrogant" high fliers, Dr Jo Silvester, a psychologist from Leeds University, told the conference. Interviewers loathe people who blame others for mistakes and automatically mark them down.

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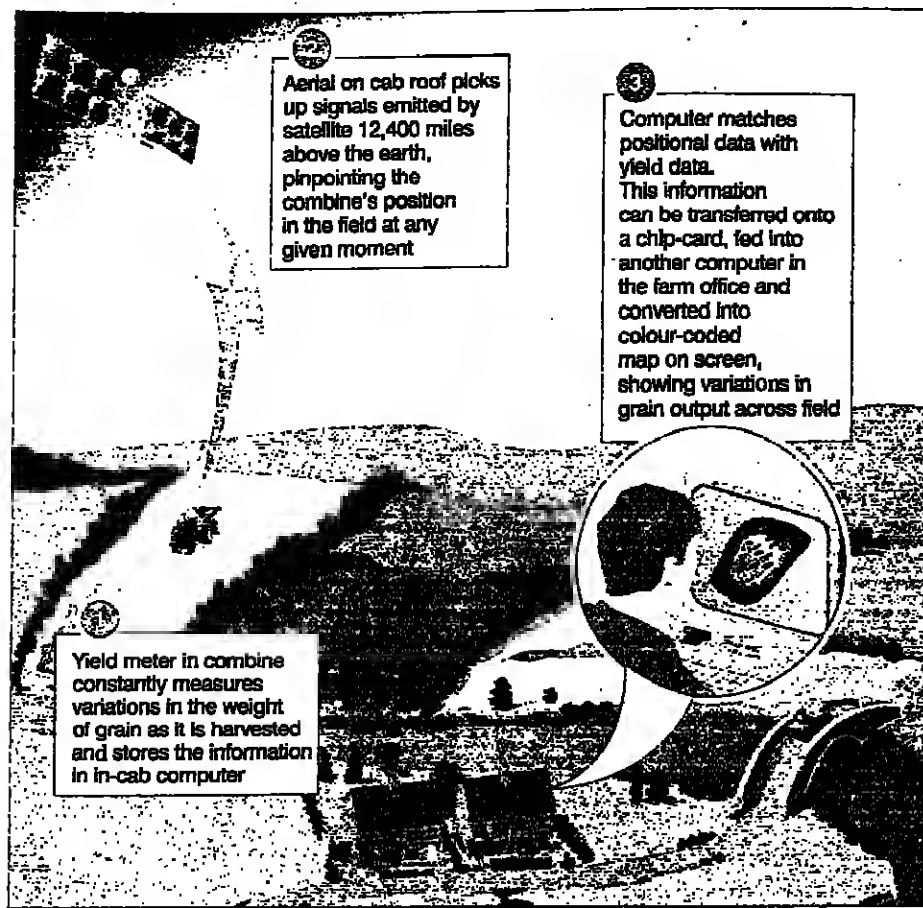
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Aerial on cab roof picks up signals emitted by satellite 12,400 miles above the earth, pinpointing the combine's position in the field at any given moment

Computer matches positional data with yield data. This information can be transferred onto a chip-card, fed into another computer in the farm office and converted into colour-coded map on screen, showing variations in grain output across field

Yield meter in combine constantly measures variations in the weight of grain as it is harvested and stores the information in in-cab computer

## Spy in the sky speeds the plough

We plough the fields, and scatter  
The good seed on the land.  
But it is fed and water'd  
By God's almighty hand.

Jane Montgomery Campbell  
(1817-78)

FARMERS will be looking to satellites and computer science rather than the hand of God in their bid to boost yields this year.

They now have the means to control the output of their fields with a precision undreamt of a few years ago — let alone by 19th-century hymn writers — even though the vagaries of weather can still upset their best-laid plans despite modern forecasting methods.

The newest technology, recently on display at the Royal Smithfield Show, is being pioneered by Massey Ferguson.

The first step came five years ago when the company produced a combine harvester fitted with a computer that gives crop yield readings every

New technology that indicates poor soil areas in arable fields is helping farmers to boost yields, writes Michael Hornsby

few seconds as the machine moves through the field. Now a way has been found to convert the data into a detailed "yield map".

An aerial on the harvester's roof picks up and amplifies signals emitted by a network of satellites — known as the Global Positioning System — placed in orbit more than 12,400 miles above the Earth by the United States military.

Electronic navigation equipment uses the signals to pinpoint the harvester's position in the field and the in-cab computer simultaneously matches this data with the yield readings.

At the end of the day, the farmer can download the information on to another computer in his office and call on screen a colour-coded map showing the exact variation in yield — measured in tonnes of

grain per hectare (2.5 acres) — in almost every square metre of the field.

Philip Chamberlain, who manages 2,800 arable acres near Wallingford, Oxfordshire, was one of eight British farmers who tried the system last year.

He said it has already proved its worth.

"We were surprised to discover in one field that the crop yield was 50 per cent lower down one side as we could not see any obvious reason why," Mr Chamberlain said. "Closer investigation revealed the existence of a pan, a layer of compacted soil beneath the surface, that was inhibiting crop growth."

Research shows that crop yields can vary by as much as 80 per cent within the same field, because of uneven distribution of soil nutrients or

differences in the numbers of weeds and pests.

This is often not apparent to the farmer who applies seed, fertiliser and herbicides at an even rate, with the result that some areas get much more than they need and others not enough.

Armed with a yield map, farmers will soon be able to vary the application of seed and chemicals according to need, using computer-controlled sprayers and seed-drillers that can be programmed to do this automatically in line with the data on the map.

Mr Chamberlain spends £50,000 a year on fertiliser. He does not expect to reduce that expenditure, but hopes to boost yield and profits by using the same amount of fertiliser more efficiently. He calculates that he should be able to recover the £10,000 cost of the computer equipment in a year or two.

God's almighty hand may still water the land, but soon little else will be left to providence.

## Raid victim is marched to cashpoint

An early morning intruder forced a 34-year-old computer analyst out of bed at knifepoint, frogmarched him for a mile to a cashpoint machine at Bishopston, Bristol, and made him withdraw the maximum of £200.

The victim, who had been compelled to wear a crash helmet, tried unsuccessfully to draw attention to his plight on the march by stumbling into dustbins and a cycle rack. The robber, a young man of mixed race, ran off with the money.

## Gang attack

Two men are in hospital, one under police guard, after a gang armed with baseball bats beat up three men in a house at Ilkington, West Yorkshire. Armed police arrested three men in a pub.

## Smear all-clear

The 362 women who asked for fresh smear tests after a course used the wrong spanula at two Birmingham surgeries have been cleared of cancer. Another 746 have not responded to a recall letter.

## Double escape

Two Algerian illegal immigrants, who fled French police when Britain sent them back across the Channel, returned to Portsmouth and evaded Group 4 custody.

## Seafront body

The charred body of an unidentified man was found in a seafront shelter at Clacton-on-Sea, Essex. Police say the death is not suspicious.

## Nurse killed

A nurse, Kathleen Milroy, 34, was found strangled in a garden near her home in Gateshead, Tyne and Wear. A man has been arrested.

## Drain brains

Abu Dhabi is to buy sewer drain covers, designed by a company at Holwell, Leicestershire, to repel snakes.

## Girl charged

A girl aged 16 was remanded into care by Swindon youth court, Wiltshire, charged with trying to murder a boy of 15.

## Baton adopted

Avon and Somerset police has become the first force to replace traditional truncheons with telescopic batons.

## Royal fare

The Prince of Wales is to promote a range of seafood products from his Cornwall estate.

Beer and spirits buried at secret dumps as criminals try to exploit single market

## Bulldozers dig deep to stem flood of smuggled alcohol

By Bill Frost

CONFRONTED by rising oceans of contraband alcohol and mountains of confiscated cigarettes, Customs and Excise officers have abandoned traditional methods of destruction and are bulldozing the booty with household refuse.

Such is the volume of beer, wine and spirits seized from smugglers shuttling between the Channel ports and French hypermarkets that the bottles can no longer be poured into the common sewer, Container lorries, escorted by customs officers, are transporting the alcohol to land-fill sites. Last month more than ten tons of beer, wine and spirits confiscated at Dover were destroyed at a secret site in Kent.

Bruce Davies, the Customs and Excise assistant collector at the port, said yesterday that an army of smugglers had taken advantage of the single European market during the past year. "Once, the alcohol we seized was taken to the water authority to be poured down the common sewer," he said. "For reasons of quantity and because of environmental

concerns, that is no longer possible."

Before being taken for destruction, contraband is stored at the Queen's Warehouse in Dover. "Security is extremely tight for obvious reasons and unfortunately business has never been brisker," increasing quantities of confiscated tobacco and drugs are also stored at warehouses across the country, where they are destroyed in incinerators known as the Queen's Pipe.

Mr Davies said that criminal gangs had set up nationwide distribution networks with the advent of the single market. "These gangs pose the most worrying level of activity," he said. "But there are a number of tiers beneath them. For example, you have the man who puts together a group of 15 or so unemployed people and gets them shuttling across to France to buy drink and tobacco a couple of times a day for anything up to a week at a time."

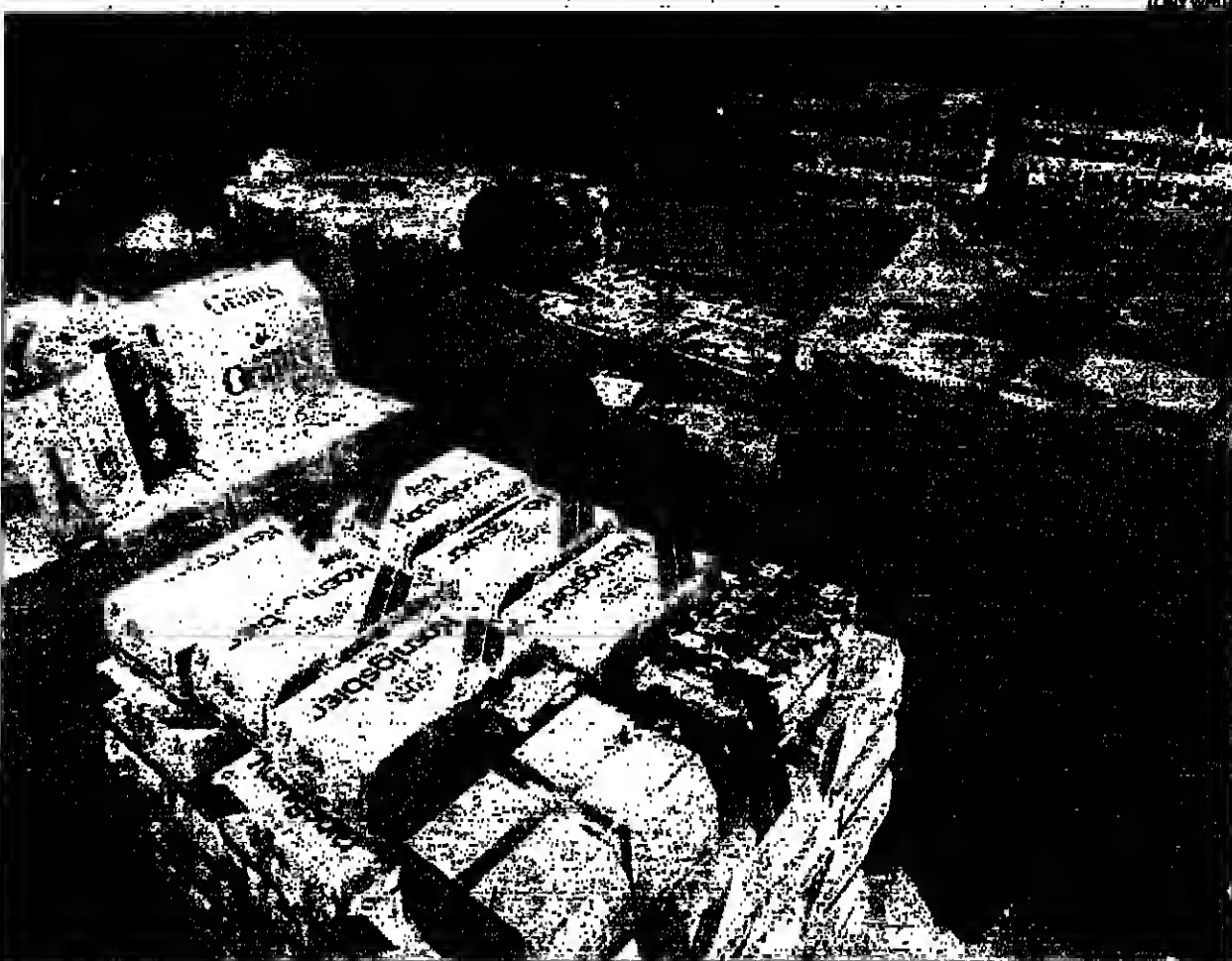
"Then you have the local businessman who fills up his van across the Channel and sells it on at a car boot sale. At

the bottom of the hierarchy is the individual who is popping over to France and offers to bring you back a couple of bottles at a price."

Despite being grossly overladen with alcohol and tobacco, some couriers — or "mules" — still attempt to convince officers that it is for personal consumption. "Few would be convinced when an unemployed man found with 23 kilos of hand-rolling tobacco tells you he intends to smoke it all himself," Mr Davies said.

While some smugglers are intercepted at the port, others are followed to their destination by customs officers seeking to unravel the operation. Mr Davies said: "Intelligence gathering is crucial, as sometimes these people are involved in a much more sinister form of smuggling." A driver stopped in Dover recently had hidden a large consignment of cannabis beneath piled cases of beer in his car boot.

Other Queen's Warehouses were said yesterday to be in a similar position to Dover.



Crates of booty making the Queen's Warehouse in Dover look like a well-stocked hypermarket yesterday

Andy Honour, a Customs and Excise official in the East Midlands, said: "They are bursting at the seams now and we can no longer simply pour the alcohol down the common sewer. Bulldozing the beer

and wine into land-fill sites would seem the best way out." But with so many deserving causes crying out for financial support why should contraband not be auctioned for the greater good? Desmond

Barratt-Denyer, of Customs and Excise, said last night that such was the volume of seized goods that such a course of action would distort the market.

"Before the single market,

we did give confiscated drink to charities. Confiscated tobacco was handed to the armed forces. Now, though, we would be accused of being a sort of cut-price government off-licence if we did that."

## Commuters pay penalty in fight for inner cities

By Nick Nuttall, Environment Correspondent

THE British obsession with living in the country and commuting into towns is to be challenged by the Government amid fears that it is speeding the decline of some inner city areas into American-style ghettos.

The last of a string of planning rules will be put in place over the coming months, intended to break the slow but steady march of populations from the centre of cities. The strategy will make it harder for local authorities to allow new settlements, supermarkets and commercial developments outside towns.

It is being allied to increased petrol taxes and running costs for cars so that using private vehicles to commute, shop or ferry children long distances becomes less attractive.

David Curry, the environment minister, said: "If people want to live in the countryside, it is not my job to say they are morally reprehensible. But neither is it my job to permit a planning system that gives people no choice but to move out to Chesham."

"We have seen what has happened in the States if people flee the inner cities. We

have got to start now to stop this happening here."

One effect could be an increase in land, office and house prices in cities as developers are pushed away from suburban and rural sites.

Figures produced recently by the Civic Trust as part of its Campaign for Liveable Places show that areas including Merseyside, Greater London, Tyneside and the West Midlands have lost between 2 and 5 per cent of their populations between 1981 and 1990.

The exodus has led to development pressures in counties such as Buckinghamshire, West Sussex and Berkshire, where populations have risen between 5.1 and 10 per cent.

Mr Curry said that the new strategy was also aimed at helping Britain meet international commitments to cut carbon gas emissions. Traffic now accounts for an increasing proportion of these and new roads, built partly to satisfy commuters, are threatening wildlife sites. Reclaiming the inner cities puts people at the hub of public transport networks.

Mr Curry said it could also cut the costs of crime. "If you

can get more women feeling confident about going out at night you will tackle many problems of security and make cities much safer ... There is no point in the Home Office initiating 15 Bills per session on law and order if we do not address idiotically simple security questions in towns and cities."

The strategy follows a report, compiled on behalf of the transport and environment departments by a firm called ECOTEC Research and Consulting in association with Transportation Planning Associates. It shows that people in less densely populated communities travel an average 82 miles a week by car. People living in more crowded, inner-city areas travel 50 miles a week by car.

Nick de Lothbiniere, a partner at Grimley J.R. Eve in London, said that increasing the household densities in cities might have an apparent link with poverty and urban decay. But research carried out for the House Builders' Federation indicated that some of London's wealthiest boroughs had high housing densities.

## Out-of-town store blocked

By A Staff Reporter

THE first project affected by the strategy was a Tesco supermarket to be developed at the junction of the M11 at Duxford, Cambridgeshire.

It was approved by the planning inspector but is being reassessed by John Gummer, the Environment Secretary.

He said recently that he attached considerable weight to utilisation of the land-use planning system to reduce the demand for travel. A planning

inspector, considering a recent proposal for a Sainsbury supermarket to be built on the eastern edge of Redditch, Hereford and Worcester, recommended that the scheme should be shelved in favour of a denser network of stores in the town.

The inspector said that such a network of stores would be likely to reduce total car mileage driven by Redditch residents on shopping trips ... I regard [this factor] as being a significant advantage."

Also, a 350-home village

proposed outside Kettering in Northamptonshire has been shelved in favour of a larger scheme.

The environment department's inspector ruled that the original proposal was not sustainable unless it included more homes and infrastructure with keys, may be difficult to enforce, he said.

Anyone who complains but fails to get a satisfactory response from their council will be able to take the case to a local ombudsman.

## Warning bells ring for noisy car alarms

By A Staff Reporter

DRIVERS whose car alarms disrupt the night may find their vehicle disappearing to a far-away car pound from today.

New laws come into force aimed at reducing street noise. They supplement laws under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, which allow councils to stop neighbours playing loud music, arguing or practising the trombone at dawn.

The new laws will allow local authority staff to break into cars, disarm alarms or remove cars. They also herald a clampdown on buskers with amplifiers and DIY enthusiasts or contractors operating noisy machinery.

Environmental health officers will have powers to test in the courts a range of environmentally polluting sounds that can turn peace-loving people into irate neighbours.

Children with irritating radio-controlled aircraft may also be deemed to be breaking the law.

Nick Wilson, assistant secretary of the Institution of Environmental Health Officers, said yesterday: "The laws have been drafted to cover a wide range of possibilities ... I look forward with interest to the first case."

But the laws, which soon will require householders with burglar alarms to give the police details of neighbours, family and friends with keys, may be difficult to enforce, he said.

Anyone who complains but fails to get a satisfactory response from their council will be able to take the case to a local ombudsman.

## Lessons of Braer oil spill 'ignored'

By Tim Jones, Transport Correspondent

FRESH demands for the Government to ban tankers from sailing close to environmentally sensitive areas were made yesterday, one year after the Braer ran aground off Shetland, spilling 85,000 tonnes of oil into the sea.

Environmental groups claimed the Government's policy of voluntary measures were totally inadequate and were courting disaster.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said that, in spite of a voluntary code, tankers were still free to go wherever they wished. It

Government had "learned nothing and done nothing" to improve shipping safety since the disaster. He said he would renew demands for a public enquiry if the Lord Donaldson enquiry into pollution from merchant shipping, due later this year, left questions about the Braer grounding unanswered.

Mr Wallace added: "Since the Braer grounded, the Marine Accident Investigation Branch has failed to publish any report and the Transport Department has declined to install radar or arrange for aerial surveillance around the coast and has excluded tankers carrying ballast water from categories of ships to which the areas of avoidance should apply."

Dr Jonathan Wills, a Shetland councillor, said: "The council did a radar survey in June. Of nine tankers passing through Sunnyside Head, five breached the voluntary code of practice and one came dangerously close to the Braer. If that is happening in a quiet week in June, what is happening in the winter months?"

Since the disaster, the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund has paid out £20 million to those affected, but the Shetland Islands Council has estimated that the eventual costs will be nearer £50 million. The biggest share, of £12.5 million, has been paid to salmon farmers who had to destroy about 25 million fish.

Maurice Mullay, head of tourism for the islands, also claimed the compensation fund had frustrated efforts to gain fair compensation for damage to the holiday industry. He said the loss to the industry so far was £1.3 million and rising against compensation to date of just £71,000.



Wallace: "Government has done nothing"

called for mandatory monitoring of tanker routes and of their positions. The society said that voluntary routes taking tankers away from environmentally sensitive areas should be made compulsory by the International Maritime Organisation.

Nurnast, the merchant navy officers' union, said that the growing number of "rust buckets" operating off the coastline meant another serious shipping disaster was "inevitable".

Jim Wallace, MP for Shetland and Orkney, said the



## Carey claims Sudanese have scored 'own goal'

■ The Archbishop of Canterbury has forthrightly criticised Khartoum's expulsion of the British ambassador. But the envoy also has his detractors

By DAVID WATTS AND RUTH GLEDHILL

BRITAIN last night gave the Sudanese ambassador 14 days to leave the country after the Sudan declined to reconsider its decision to expel the British ambassador.

On his return to Britain, Dr George Carey, the Archbishop of Canterbury, said Khartoum's expulsion of Peter Streams was an "own goal". African sources said, however, that the ambassador had become an obstacle to relations between Britain and Sudan.

The Foreign Office said its order for Ali Osman Yassin to leave was the "inevitable consequence" of Sudan's sticking to its expulsion of Mr Streams. Britain would not agree to the appointment of a successor to Mr Yassin and there were no plans to replace Mr Streams.

The immediate cause of Sudan's decision to expel Mr Streams appeared to be the controversy over the Archbishop's visit to the southern,



Yassin: Foreign Office was left no alternative

mainly Christian, part of the country. The African sources, however, said the real problem lay in the deteriorating relationship between Mr Streams and Sudanese ministers and officials. "His relations with all officials have become very difficult, and he has been very undiplomatic in the way he expresses things," one source said.

Mr Streams had also made it clear that he believed the Sudanese government was not worthy of recognition. It had been reported more than once that Mr Streams felt he was in

Khartoum to oppose the government and, the source said, "he has been saying that too frequently and too openly".

Sudanese sources said the government had been looking forward to Dr Carey's visit to Khartoum, but there had been an attempt to impose a different agenda. "The government is very keen to have good relations with Western countries, even though it is one of the more independent-minded governments in Africa and the Middle East."

At a press conference at Lambeth Palace yesterday, Dr Carey said the international community needed to show "greater energy and imagination" in the search for peace in Sudan. He denied that his visit had been provocative. He was in fact disappointed that he had been unable to visit the North of the country. "If the opportunity arose, I would gladly go as long as I went as the guest of the church and if people there could have free access to me," he said.

Dr Carey described the expulsion of Mr Streams as an "overreaction", saying: "I was very surprised that my refusal to go as an official guest was given as one of the reasons for his expulsion." He added: "They [the Sudanese] would have every reason to object if I was the head of state. If you are head of state you go as the guest of the government. I was going as the guest of the Episcopal Church." He said he hoped there would not be reprisals against areas he had visited, but people in the South had told him they would not be surprised if some places were bombed by the military after he left. "I hope the government will not take any action like that," he said. "Many people are watching to see if these fears are realised."

Dr Carey contrasted the Church of England with the Episcopal Church in Sudan. "We have been so concerned about survival, about financial matters, even about the ordination of women, that our attention has moved away from those primary life and death issues," he said.

George Carey, page 12

## Fighting breaks out between ANC units

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

FIGHTING has erupted in a black township on the outskirts of Johannesburg between rival "self-defence units" affiliated to the African National Congress.

According to residents of Katlehong, a power struggle between units in three sections is to blame for the fighting, which the government described yesterday as the ANC being "at war with themselves".

"They are at war with the police, at war with Inkatha and at war with themselves," said Craig Kotze, spokesman for the Minister of Law and Order.

The ANC admitted that some "self-defence" units were out of control, and said it was trying to re-establish its authority. Carl Niehaus, an ANC spokesman, accused the government of making "worrying

propaganda" out of the troubles.

According to Katlehong residents the trouble has been brewing for months but came to a head when members of one unit, unhappy with the oppressive behaviour of a commander, abducted and killed him. In retaliation three unit members were killed.

"There will be revenge attacks and we will be caught in the crossfire," said one resident.

The establishment of a national peacekeeping force is to be discussed today in Pretoria to try to bring some multi-party responsibility to keeping the peace in the townships.

Clifford Aleson, a South African ambassador to Bulgaria, has been found assassinated in his home-filled car. Police said he had apparently committed suicide. (AFP)



A great beauty's journey into old age captured by the camera. From left, Garbo aged 28; in her last film at 36; as seen by Cecil Beaton at 54; and at 84, a year before she died

## Tapes reveal fervour of Garbo's wish to be alone

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

She wanted to be alone, but quite how neurotically Greta Garbo demanded and defended her solitude has only now been revealed.

A series of tape-recorded conversations between the late actress and Sam Green, an art dealer and her one-time friend, portray a woman who combined narcissism with a fanatical determination to protect her privacy. The tapes, obtained by Barry Paris, author of a new biography of the star, are published for the first time in this month's *Vanity Fair* magazine.

To judge by their contents, Garbo's eccentricities were legion, ranging from a love of soap opera to spontaneous tree-hugging and a morbid terror of air-conditioning. Her fear of entering an air-conditioned building was so great, indeed, that she insisted on a dentist examining her teeth on a bench in Central Park.

After making her last film, *Two-*

*Faced Woman*, Greta Lovisa Gustafsson left Hollywood forever in 1941, taking with her an unparalleled and still undiminished beauty and a fierce determination of the Hollywood publicity machine. An apartment on East 52nd Street in Manhattan became her sanctuary until her death on April 15, 1990.

Her friendships were few, carefully controlled and often ultimately unhappy. Her relationship with George and Valentina Schlee, which Paris describes as an "odd ménage à trois", ended in bitterness after George Schlee's death. Garbo was banned from the funeral service and Valentina went to the extraordinary length of having her apartment exorcised by an Orthodox priest to remove any trace of the woman she referred to as "that vampire".

Despite the fact that few people ever saw it and that she never entertained, Garbo's apartment was lavishly furnished, although many of the paintings were covered over

and the dining table, big enough to seat 12, was never used. "Garbo turned the apartment into a womb-like refuge that precisely suited her Spartan requirements," writes Paris, whose *Garbo* will be published this spring. She told her friends: "Don't ever ask me questions", and she resolutely refused to discuss either her acting career or her Hollywood years.

"The story of my life," she said, "is about back entrances and side doors and secret elevators and other ways of getting in and out of places so that people won't bother you."

Sam Green was one of the few people to get through the shell she built around herself and he became her friend and confidant for 30 years. At the start of their relationship he told Garbo that, as an art dealer, he habitually recorded all his conversations and she made no objection, he says.

The tapes reveal the lengths to which Garbo was prepared to go to

avoid being disturbed. Whenever she was recognised on their walks together, she would nudge Mr Green and say "Oh-Oh, Mr Green, here comes another customer" before taking evasive action.

Her life, according to both her biographer and Mr Green, was profoundly asexual. Although she referred to herself, bizarrely, in masculine terms, Mr Green insists: "She wasn't a lesbian. She wasn't anything."

Later in life, the stunning Swedish beauty, who had had affairs with John Gilbert, the actor, Cecil Beaton, the British photographer, and Mercedes de Acosta, the lesbian author, told Mr Green: "Ah, the sex thing, I'm glad that part of my life is over."

Simultaneously obsessed and plagued by the public's interest in her, Garbo became increasingly cut off from reality and possibly a manic depressive. As early as 1933

she said: "I am very happy one moment, the next there is nothing left for me." In 1977 she was still deeply unhappy, believing that "I've messed up my life and it's too late to change that."

She spent increasing amounts of time watching television, repeats of *General Hospital* and *Matlock* mainly, while her loyal housekeeper vetted all telephone calls. In 1985 her relationship with Mr Green ended after an American newspaper wrongly announced that they planned to marry. "Greta Garbo to wed — at 80," *The Globe* screamed. Although Mr Green denied telling the newspaper anything, she broke off all contact with him. Thereafter, until she died at the age of 85 her seclusion was almost total.

In *Vanity Fair* Mr Green, who received no money for releasing the tape-recordings, reflects on his decision to publish these fragments of her life, asking: "In the end, did we betray Garbo, or did she betray us?"

## Hurd says PLO and Israel risk alienating public

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

DOUGLAS Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, has urged Israelis and Palestinians to get their peace talks moving again, warning that otherwise they risked losing public support.

Speaking in Jerusalem after meeting Israeli leaders and senior Palestinians from the occupied territories, Mr Hurd said he had emerged from his talks convinced that both sides still had a strong incentive to work out their differences. "They all see the importance of getting on with it," he said.

"Unless people in Israel or the occupied territories can see that there is actual progress, as opposed to the repetition of declarations, they will lose

to assist the Palestinians practically. In particular Mr Hurd pledged that Britain was in favour of liberalising trade between Israel and the European Community. He said that today, during a visit to the occupied Gaza Strip, he would unveil a package of technical assistance to help Palestinians establish self-rule.

His visit has been dominated by the failure of Israelis and Palestinians to agree to the terms of their "land for peace" accord in the territories. Mr Hurd met Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, who read out the entire contents of a fax received last week from the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Israel insists that the Palestinians renege on earlier commitments to resolve three outstanding differences holding up the start of an Israeli withdrawal from the territories.

The Palestinians who met Mr Hurd complained that Israel was using unfair tactics at the negotiating table, and said that daily life for the two million Arab inhabitants of the territories had changed little since the signing of the peace accord in Washington last September.

Religious pride: Nine out of ten Israelis are "proud or happy" to be Jewish and almost 70 per cent believe that they are God's "chosen people", according to a nationwide survey. (AFP)

Photograph, page 18

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Afghan doctors plead for medicine

Kabul: Doctors in the Afghan capital appeal for medicine and blood to treat 1,700 people wounded in four days of fighting among Islamic factions (Our Foreign Staff writes). In Jamhuriat hospital, one of Kabul's largest, dozens of children suffering from shrapnel wounds lay bleeding in corridors and on makeshift stretchers.

At least 54 people have been confirmed dead, and thousands more people were awaiting treatment in their homes as fighting between communist forces, allied to Islamic fundamentalists, and troops loyal to President Rabbani continued. In Gaveva, the UN said it feared heavy fighting in Afghanistan might cause a new exodus of refugees to nearby states.

### Raped child denied help

Edmonton: Social services officials in Canada are reviewing a decision to refuse government-financed psychiatric treatment to a six-year-old rape victim. The girl's tormentor, 12, was ordered by a judge to undergo psychiatric treatment, to be paid for by the province of Alberta.

The girl, repeatedly raped by the boy, who had invited friends to watch him, was refused government-financed help. (AFP)

### Activist held

Lagos: Ken Saro-Wiwa, president of a Nigerian minority rights pressure group, was placed under house arrest with his family by troops in Port Harcourt, capital of the southern Rivers State. (AFP)

### Bushfires rage

Sydney: About 100 fires raged across New South Wales with high temperatures and strong winds expected to worsen what is already the state's worst bushfire emergency in 15 years. Two men have died. (AP)

### Oh, by the way..

Tallahassee: Johnnie Mosley won more than £10 million in the Florida lottery in September, but kept it a secret until Christmas before handing the ticket to her husband as a present. They claimed the prize this week. (AP)

## Court scraps cash-free baby pact

By BEN MACINTYRE

A MAN who agreed to inseminate a colleague has been ordered to pay \$100,000 (£67,500) in child support, despite a written promise from the woman that she would never seek money.

Edward Sraub, of Indianapolis, had a relationship with his fellow schoolteacher Francine Todd, five years ago when he agreed to father her child. He insisted, however, that she sign a document promising not to make him pay for the child's support. The relationship continued for three years after their daughter was born.

On Monday, the Indiana Court of Appeals ruled that Ms Todd had no right to sign away her daughter's right to monetary support from the child's father. The three-judge panel decided by a margin of 2-1 that it was in the child's best interests to ignore the agreement.

Our legislature has created a strong current public policy with the object of protecting the rights of children from the whims of their parents and the power of the state," said Judge Stanley Miller.

Mr Sraub's lawyer unsuccessfully argued that the agreement should be binding since it was protected under

the "unqualified constitutional right for a single woman to have a child".

The deciding element appears to be that Mr Sraub continued his relationship with Ms Todd after she had become pregnant and had given birth, thus distinguishing the case from one of artificial insemination.

"We know of no medical requirements — not of any sperm-donor programme — that continues to give insemination injections after the donee becomes pregnant," the judges said.

Archbishop's plea, page 1  
Foster bid, page 3

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## US task force to study radiation claims

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON

THE Clinton administration has decided to set up a task force to investigate allegations of medical radiation experiments during the Cold War and to determine whether to compensate the surviving victims.

The decision was taken at a meeting by officials from a number of government departments and federal agencies, some of which had been involved in these experiments several decades ago. The decision came after a declassification drive by the Energy Department, which has released evidence of

nuclear experiments. These suggest that up to 800 people had been subjected to radiation tests during the Forties and Fifties, to test the effect of radioactivity on the human body. Some of the experiments continued until the mid-Seventies.

Mark Gearan, the White House communications director, said that the task force would "go about the business of getting to the bottom" of these experiments. He said it was premature to conclude now that the victims would be compensated because the task force would be faced with a difficult fact-finding mission and because it would be difficult to estab-

lish, beyond reasonable doubt, the link between these experiments and later illnesses.

Among those subjected to the experiments was a group of pregnant women in Tennessee, who were exposed to X-rays, and mentally retarded children in Massachusetts, who were fed radioactive milk. These cases, which emerged last month after being held as classified information for several decades, created a public outrage and has led to calls that the victims should be compensated.

Since the scandal hit the headlines last month, the Energy Department has re-

ceived 10,000 telephone calls from people claiming to have been subjected to experiments. Of those, about 7,000 warrant a more detailed investigation.

The group that met at the White House to investigate the radiation experiments comprises officials from a large number of government departments and agencies, including Energy, Health, Veterans Affairs, Defence, Justice, the Budget Office, and also from the National Security Council. No officials were present from the CIA, which is also believed to have been involved with nuclear experiments. The group will meet again on Monday.



# Bundeswehr battles budget cuts amid campaign for wider alliance



Rühe supports entry of Eastern Europe to Nato

By CAREY SCHOFIELD

GERMAN strategic thinkers forced the pace in the debates that raged last year over the future of Nato. Volker Rühe, the German Defence Minister, was consistently the most outspoken Western advocate of offering full alliance membership to the new democracies of Central and Eastern Europe as soon as possible, and influential Bonn planners remain committed to this course.

But, as next week's Nato summit approaches, much energy at his ministry is being spent on fending off new budget cuts. A recent proposal that DM2.4 billion (£925 million) of overall savings of DM5 billion should come from the defence budget was greeted with horror by the Bundeswehr. Herr Rühe offered DM500 million as his ministry's pro rata share of the total, but observers in the Bundestag (parliament) indicate that the final figure is likely to be between DM1 billion and DM2 billion.

Even before the latest threat, the ministry was struggling to meet the

**■ The axe is poised over Bonn defence spending. Chief German concerns at the Nato summit are to keep US taxpayers happy and France co-operative**

United Germany's defence commitments on a budget smaller than that of the former Federal Republic alone. The governing Christian Democrats are anxious to avoid a full-scale defence debate, with the attendant talk of axing jobs and closing bases. In the run-up to this year's elections, although these issues will inevitably surface in budget discussions next week.

The military, however, is already thinking the hitherto unthinkable. Detailed planning for a big reduction in the size of the armed forces is secretly underway at the ministry. According to these plans, the Bundeswehr's establishment will be reduced to substantially below the 370,000 figure that was the government's previous bottom line. This is being kept under wraps for fear of

even tougher budget cuts. Real army strength in any case fell below 370,000 last autumn as a shortage of funds slowed down the draft. "Manpower has to be cut. Everything else has been already," an army source said.

Budget cuts are also likely to affect Germany's Nato commitments, in particular its contribution to multinational units. From the British point of view, the most serious aspect of this drawdown is the decision, which Bonn sources say has already been taken, to cut the country's nuclear-capable Tornado squadrons.

Whitely believes Washington will view this as confirmation that European states, while continuing to rely on the American nuclear umbrella, are failing to shoulder

enough of the burden of their own defence. The Germans argue that Britain's continued emphasis on nuclear weapons is outmoded and that, in any case, "the British are deluding themselves if they think that we need them to interpret American attitudes".

Germany shares Britain's strategic interest in maintaining a strong American commitment to Nato, and planners in Bonn are aware that US public opinion will not continue to support the alliance unless a convincing justification for its future existence can be formulated. "Keeping the US taxpayer happy and the French co-operative will be Germany's main concern at the summit," a Christian Democrat source said.

This entails devising European security arrangements which save French face without jeopardising the central role of the alliance.

A case in point is the US-proposed Combined Joint Task Force (CJTF), intended to undertake peacekeeping and humanitarian missions. These will be dependent upon Nato structures for logistics, Awacs, commun-

ications, and so on) but, to keep the French happy, it will look as though the Western European Union (WEU) is running the show. British and German sources are adamant that operations will first be considered by Nato, and only then, if the alliance refuses them, by the WEU. They are clear that Nato must not be seen as an alliance of last resort. The French, however, insist that the WEU should have the *droit de seigneur* in such cases. Germany is better placed than any of the other Allies to cajole the French into co-operation, and to stifle any Paris-inspired initiatives to rival the CJTF and hence jeopardise Nato.

But German planners have to contend with the difficulty that their own unresolved constitutional question limits Bundeswehr out-of-area activities, so its role (and the number of command positions that Germans can hope to occupy) will be limited if the CJTF gets off the ground in the near future.

German delegates to the summit are aware that rumours of impending

cuts may weaken their position. Cautious Anglo-Saxon planners, anxious to avoid further defence commitments that cannot be backed up by force, may consider that the shrinking of the Bundeswehr makes Nato's enlargement an even more perilous undertaking. Bonn sources protest that the new model army will be more appropriate to the post-Cold War defence agenda than the old structures.

But, until the budget question and the out-of-area issue are settled, they cannot publicly discuss the restructuring of the army for this role. German defence representatives will, however, continue to impress on the allies that the issue of Nato enlargement will not go away after next Tuesday. They will also be casting around for ammunition to be used during the next couple of months in the wrangles over defence spending back home.

Carey Schofield is the author of several books on the Russian Army and is now writing a book on the Bundeswehr.

## Walesa fears Nato snub could revive Soviet bloc

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON AND MICHAEL BINYON IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Walesa of Poland yesterday intensified the pressure on President Clinton to admit Eastern Europe's new democracies into Nato by warning that the world risked a revival of communism and the Soviet bloc if they were excluded.

In a blunt interview with *The Washington Post*, Mr Walesa called Nato's go-slow approach to accepting new members "short-sighted and irresponsible". He accused America of trying to appease Russia despite history's lessons and said Nato's refusal to issue a clear timetable for its eastward expansion at next week's summit would be a "major tragedy".

For his part, Mr Clinton is urgently dispatching General John Shalikashvili, Chairman

of the Partnership for Peace is not a device for fobbing them off but a genuine plan for their ultimate integration.

Mr Clinton will fly from Brussels to Prague next Wednesday to meet the Polish, Hungarian, Czech and Slovak leaders. He will then fly to Moscow, and American officials are striving to achieve a modest coup by completing a three-way agreement on dismantling Ukraine's nuclear arsenal in time for the President's summit with Mr Yeltsin. If such an accord were reached, President Kravchuk of Ukraine might join the two leaders in Moscow for a signing ceremony. Mr Kravchuk has promised to submit the Start strategic arms treaty to the country's new parliament, to be elected on March 27, in another attempt to win ratification. Acceptance of the invitation to Moscow is not assured, however. The Ukrainian leader has said it would be better for Mr Clinton to go to Kiev, but this is not in the President's itinerary.

Valery Shmarov, Ukraine's Deputy Foreign Minister, arrived in Washington yesterday to try to resolve the outstanding issues concerning compensation, financial aid and security guarantees. In a goodwill gesture before Christmas, Ukraine, which has the world's third largest nuclear arsenal, deactivated a third of its most modern strategic missiles.

Ukraine's failure to ratify the treaty has twice led to the cancellation of proposed visits to Washington, but Ukrainian sources last night said Mr Kravchuk had now been invited at the end of this month.

Mr Clinton arrives the day after the opening of the new Russian parliament and will meet a number of new MPs, but the White House said he had no plans to meet Vladimir Zhirinovsky, leader of the far-right Liberal Democrats. The President is expected to voice Western concern over the strength of support for Mr Zhirinovsky and seek assurances that Mr Yeltsin will not bow to his anti-reformist demands.

Mr Clinton will fly to Belorussia to reward it for abandoning its nuclear arsenal and, if necessary, send a signal of displeasure to Ukraine. He will then go to Geneva to meet President Assad of Syria to try to advance the Middle East peace process. Tony Lake, Mr Clinton's National Security Adviser, has written to relatives of those who died in the Lockerbie bombing to say that the meeting would not result in the lifting of sanctions and Syria's removal from the American list of nations sponsoring terrorism.

□ Athens: Thirty-three people were injured, three seriously, in an explosion and fire at a Nato naval headquarters near here yesterday. The Greek Defence Ministry said the blast, at an underground base, was caused by a short circuit. (Reuters)

## Bosnia diplomats fail the ink-blot map test

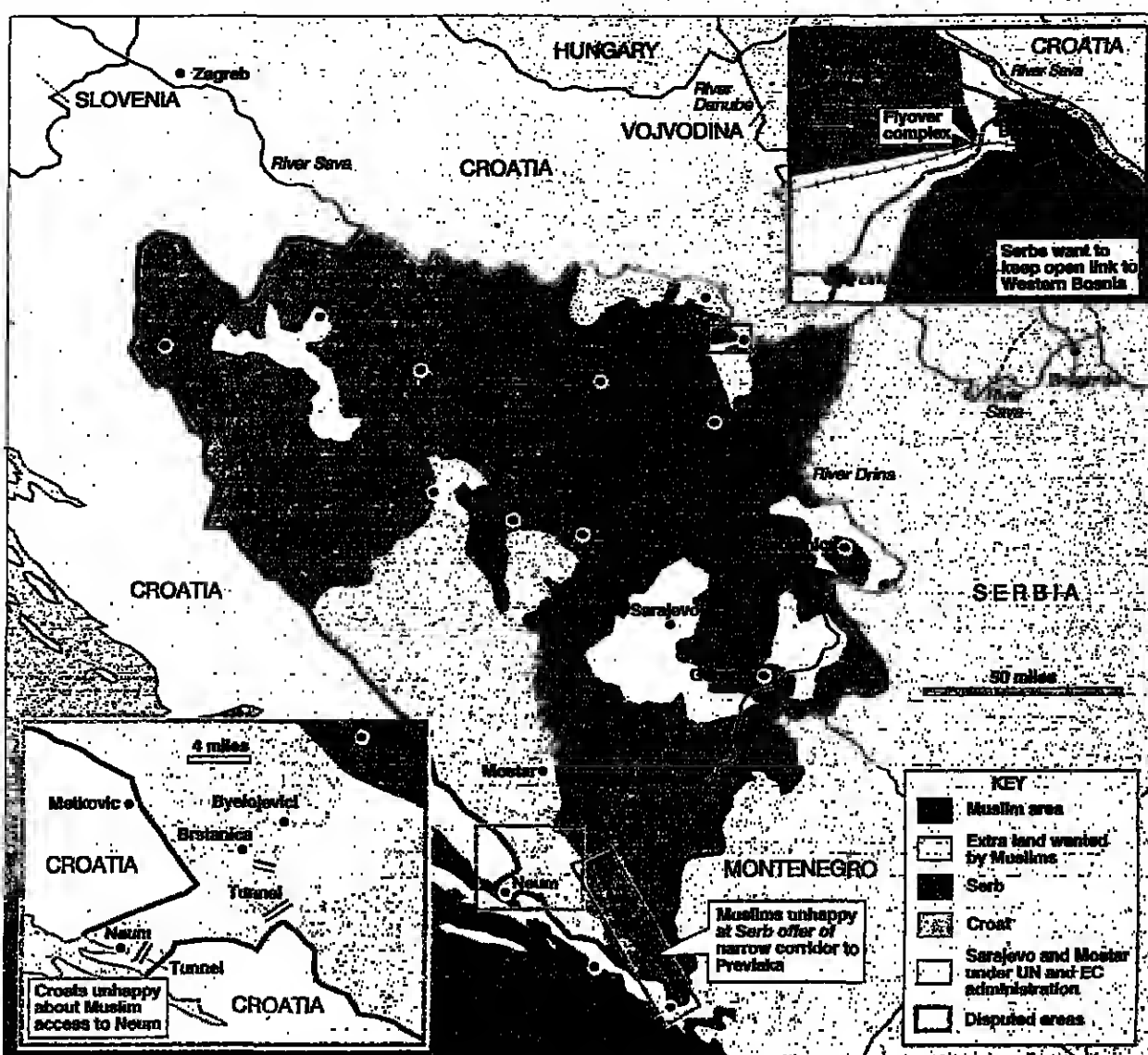
BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE  
DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

IT LOOKS like the sort of ink-blot test that psychiatrists use to determine how mad people are. This is the map of Bosnia-Herzegovina that Serbs, Croats and Muslims are haggling over as they try tortuously to find ways to divide the republic along ethnic lines.

It has been compiled from a series of maps obtained by *The Times* from Bosnian government sources who took part in the latest round of failed peace talks in Geneva and Brussels just before Christmas.

The chart reflects the triumph of force over diplomacy after an estimated 70-odd rounds of negotiations: Bosnia's Serbs and Croats have consolidated their hold on land bordering Serbia and Croatia proper, while the Muslim-led government is left with a convoluted central section with a peninsular arm jutting into Serb territory and a disjointed island between Serb and Croat land in the far northwest. The capital, Sarajevo, and Mostar where 55,000 Muslims are now besieged by Bosnian Croat forces, would be temporarily administered by the United Nations and the European Union. And those are just the easy bits.

The main sticking points are more complicated — how to give the Muslims access to the Adriatic and to northern Europe? Muslims say they



were dismayed at the latest talks to discover that the Serbs had unexpectedly tweaked the map to deprive them of a vital substantial link to the town of Brcko in the northeast. Brcko gives important access to the River Sava and subsequent trade links with northern Europe.

The Serbs also proposed giving the Muslims a route to the sea via a narrow corridor to Prevlaka on the Montenegrin-Croatian border. The

Muslims see the corridor as passing through bandit country and, anyway, they had been concentrating on negotiating access to the sea near the Croatian port of Neum. The Croats have been increasingly hostile to this idea because it cuts a line through Croatian territory.

The new Serbo-Croat proposal presented in Geneva would have to move another 240,000 people from their homes which they defended

for 20 months," Mirza Hajric, a Bosnian government spokesman, said.

When it comes to the details at Neum and Brcko, proposals devoted to the realms of Heath Robinson. At Neum, 17 miles from the proposed borders of the Bosnian republic, it has been suggested that three tunnels be dug to allow Croatian land to be uninterrupted above. Furthermore, at Neum, a deep-water port would have to be dredged to

allow cargo ships to use it. At Brcko, there is a proposal for a massive viaduct to carry Muslim traffic across Serb-held territory.

What is not clear is the cost of these expensive civil-engineering feats, or who would pay. And even when an eventual deal is struck between all three parties, the ethnic map is likely to be so distorted that it may be short-lived or need policing by the international community for years.

## America to double air drops to Muslim enclaves

FROM JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO



Lieutenant General Francis Briguemont, above, the outspoken Belgian commander of the UN protection force in Bosnia, may leave his post early at his own request, the Belgian Defence Ministry said yesterday. (Reuters)

THE American-led air drop operation, which has been parachuting food and medicine to besieged Muslim enclaves in Bosnia-Herzegovina, will be more than doubled in size over the next few days, a United Nations official announced here yesterday.

In Sarajevo, heavy Serb shelling knocked out emergency electricity to the city's priority users, including hospitals, government offices, police and army barracks, and bakeries. The electricity, which is not enough to supply private homes, had been restored only the day before. Seven people were killed and 32 wounded in the city yesterday.

Since the end of last February, six US military transport planes, one German and one French plane have flown nightly missions over Bosnia, parachuting food and medicine to the communities most in need, and where land access for relief aid is blocked by rebel Serb authorities. Starting in the next few days, the

American government will be providing nine additional aircraft for the operation. The 150 per cent increase is a sign of the gravity of food and medicine shortages in besieged Muslim enclaves. It is also a result of the failure of UN-brokered agreements to allow free passage of relief convoys and of UN optimism that negotiation will get military commanders on the ground to give up what they consider to be military objectives.

Although many areas are now largely dependent upon what was originally intended to be a temporary, emergency operation, air drops typically provide just one day's worth of food to an area. Lorry convoys can provide a week's worth.

Last winter UN officials opposed calls from relief agencies for air drops, saying such an operation would be too costly, dangerous and inefficient in Bosnia. They also said it was unnecessary and suggested that through negotiations they could win co-operation from rebel Serbs

to feed the several hundred thousand Muslims besieged in the east of the country.

Last February, however, Sarajevo went on a hunger strike, refusing UN food aid, until the organisation delivered aid to the besieged eastern enclaves. City officials and residents accused the UN of delivering food only to areas where Western reporters had access.

The food boycott led the UN to suspend all aid deliveries in Bosnia, saying that the warring parties had made it impossible to distribute aid to the places in greatest need. Soon afterwards, however, Washington announced it would begin parachuting aid to the areas rebel Serbs would not allow food convoys to reach: Cerska, Gorazde, Srebrenica, Zepa and Konjic Polje.

In the past ten months, the planes have delivered 11,300 tonnes of food and emergency supplies to six Muslim communities.

## Muslims draw Croats into new talks

BY TIM JUDAH  
BALKANS CORRESPONDENT

BOSNIAN and Croat ministers began talks in Vienna yesterday in a renewed attempt to halt the bloodshed in central Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"We do not have the right to fail," said Haris Silajdzic, the Bosnian Prime Minister, before meeting Mate Granic, the Croatian Foreign Minister, in the imperial Hofburg palace. The talks were also attended by Lord Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg, the international peace negotiators. Previous meetings between Bosnian and Croat officials have either ended with nothing or with worthless declarations of intent.

The Vienna talks began after a string of threats from Croatia and a growing awareness there of the suffering heaped on Bosnia's Croats by the policies of President Tudjman. Mr Tudjman, Gojko Susak, the Croatian Defence Minister, and General Janko Bobetko, the Chief of Staff, have all threatened intervention in Bosnia recently if the Muslim-led offensive against the remaining Croat enclaves in the country continues. Mr Granic contradicted his colleagues yesterday by denying that any intervention plan existed. The threats seem to be borne of despair since Croatian army troops have long been involved in the war. What may have been threatened in private, however, is a major counter-offensive spearheaded by waves of fresh troops from Croatia.

There are at least four Croatian enclaves in central Bosnia, and to make a viable Muslim-led mini-state, the Muslims must bring central Bosnia under their control. In some areas they are receiving Serb help, but in others the Serbs are helping the Croats. The Serb strategy is to weaken their enemies by helping them fight to the death.

Before the war there were 500,000 Croats in central and northern Bosnia and Sarajevo and 250,000 in Herzegovina. Once the partition of the country is completed most of the former will have lost their homes. Herzegovinians have always been instrumental in making policy in Zagreb and their barren homeland will be Croatia's prize for its involvement in the war.

After a string of victories, the Muslim-led Bosnian army is set on snuffing out the last enclaves and this is why no progress can be expected at the Geneva peace talks which resume on January 18.

## Russian church builds up to sainthood for murdered Tsar

FROM MICHAEL BINYON  
IN MOSCOW

THE Russian Orthodox Church, increasing the pace of moves to canonise the last Tsar of Russia, is to build a memorial church in Yekaterinburg over the remains of the house where Nicholas II and his family and servants were shot by the Bolsheviks in 1918. The holy synod announced in Moscow last week that it is to create a public commission to draw up plans for the church — to be dedicated to "all saints — glorious on Russian earth" — on the site of the Ipatiev House, where the Tsar and his family were held and then executed in the cellars.

No date has been set for building to begin, but the church is expected to be of the traditional gold-domed type

with a chapel and ancillary buildings. The shrine is bound to attract huge crowds of pilgrims in a country rapidly beginning to revere the murdered Tsar's memory.

The Ipatiev House was torn down by local Communists in Sverdlovsk, as the town was then called, on the orders of the Kremlin in 1977. The party secretary at the time was the then plain Mr Boris Yeltsin. Since becoming President, he has expressed remorse several times for his role in trying to wipe out the memory of the Tsar.

The bones of the Tsar and most of his family, found in a shallow grave in a nearby forest, were positively identified last year by scientists in Britain using new DNA forensic analysis and comparing the results with DNA

samples taken from living, but distant, relatives of the Tsar, including the Duke of Edinburgh.

The Russian government has indicated that the bones will be formally interred in St Petersburg, alongside those of other Tsars. However, plans for an elaborate ceremony, attended by the present crowned heads of Europe have been shelved while the political situation remains precarious.

The proposed church would be one of the most ambitious projects undertaken by Russian Orthodoxy, and one of the few completely new churches to be built since the Revolution. Since the end of the Communist era, hundreds of dilapidated former churches, used as stores and warehouses, have been re-

turned to the patriarchy and repaired and reopened.

St Basil's Cathedral on Red Square has been reopened for services, and restorers have just completed the rebuilding from ancient plans of another small church beside the Museum of the Revolution at the entrance to the square.

There are also grandiose plans to rebuild Moscow Cathedral, originally put up to commemorate the victory over Napoleon. This was blown up by Stalin at the height of the purges and the anti-religious campaign.

Construction is due to begin in March of the St George the Victor Cathedral in St Petersburg. This will commemorate Russia's victory in the Second World War and will be built near the southern gates of the city.



Nicholas II: Boris Yeltsin tried, as a Communist party secretary, to erase all memory of the Tsar

See Front Page

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## Rebels repel Mexican army and reject talks offer

■ Despite a large Mexican military force in the state of Chiapas, the guerrillas insist that they have sufficient training and manpower to confront the government troops

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LAS CASAS

INDIAN peasant guerrillas continued to defend their positions around several small towns in the southern highlands of the Mexican state of Chiapas yesterday, and rejected calls for talks to end the four-day-old uprising.

Although the Mexican government sent heavy army reinforcements into the area, the rebel Zapatista National Liberation Army (ZNLA) still occupied at least two towns and appeared to control a 45-mile stretch of road between the towns of San Cristóbal de las Casas and Ocoingo.

Church leaders repeated an offer to mediate between the government and the ZNLA, but they said that so far no formal contact had been established with the rebels. The three bishops of Chiapas met local state officials to discuss options, but church sources said there was little room for negotiations while the guerrillas stuck to their initial demands, which include the resignation of President Salinas de Gortari and the holding of fair elections.



Salinas: the rebels insist that he must stand down

The government said it was sending officials to Chiapas to study possible future development projects in response to the ZNLA demands for better public services. On Monday President Salinas called for an end to the conflict through dialogue. He also recognised that there were "inequalities" in Chiapas that need to be addressed, but only through legal means.

Isolated clashes between the ZNLA and government troops on Monday increased the

official death toll to 86, although other estimates put the number at more than 100. The guerrillas continued to go on the offensive in some areas, exploiting cover provided by the densely forested hillsides and adopting a tactic of defence and counter-attack. The rebels were also reported to be holding a number of hostages, including the former governor of Chiapas, General Absalon Castellanos, and members of his family.

Air force planes and helicopters patrolled the skies around San Cristóbal and heavily armed soldiers set up roadblocks and checked the few vehicles still moving in the area. However, on the road from San Cristóbal to Ocoingo, not far from an army base which the rebels attacked on Sunday, reporters found ZNLA guerrillas who had set up their own roadblock, demanding "a war tax" from anyone who wished to pass.

A 21-year-old rebel leader, who identified himself as Captain Arturo, said his men preferred to fight rather than negotiate. "We won't make the same mistakes of other guerrilla groups in Central America who agreed to negotiate and lost the war," he said.

Dressed in a dark brown uniform with a red patterned neckerchief and black hat, he kept his face hidden behind a blue balacava. He gripped an old AK47 as he explained that the ZNLA was created ten years ago but that its roots go back to the late 1960s.

"Our forces are perfectly trained to confront the federal army. Our army is big and is formed from the exploited masses," he said. "We are not Maoist or Marxist, rather we are a group of peasants, workers and students who the government has left with no other option but to take up arms."

He confirmed that the leader of the ZNLA is a man known only as Commander Marcos, who appeared on the balcony of a municipal palace in San Cristóbal on Saturday to announce the rebels' goal of overthrowing the Mexican government and ending discrimination against the indigenous peoples of the region.

Leading article, page 13



Members of the Zapatista National Liberation Army on guard in the village of Huixtán in the Chiapas region. The rebels are refusing to negotiate with members of the government and still control at least two towns

## Mass break out as 103 inmates die in Venezuela jail riot

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

AS THE death toll in one of Venezuela's bloodiest prison riots reached 103 yesterday, inmates at a second jail used the uprising as a diversion to mount a mass break out.

Forty prisoners escaped and nine were killed trying to run away from the Tocoron prison in Aragua state, 75 miles southwest of Caracas. Officials said the inmates had been planning the break out and took advantage of a bloody riot at the Sabaneta prison to carry out their scheme. Dora Bracho, the Justice Ministry's director-general of prisons, said a National Guardsman also died in the escape at Tocoron prison, which began yesterday morning.

The rampage on Monday at Sabaneta in Maracaibo, 325 miles west of Caracas, was the third uprising in two days at the prison, where officials appeared to have had difficulty controlling two smaller riots. The National Guard put down Monday's rampage.

Riots are common in Venezuelan prisons, where human rights groups say conditions are deplorable. Officials said,

however, that the Sabaneta incident was one of the worst in Venezuelan history.

Yesterday Lolita Aniyar, the state governor of Zulia, of which Maracaibo is the capital, said that 103 prisoners had died at Sabaneta. Officials said 50 inmates were seriously injured.

The riot started when members of rival gangs began fighting with makeshift knives and firearms in what was apparently a struggle for control of the prison. Local radio reported that one of the gangs was seeking vengeance for the murder of one of its members. Wounded prisoners hobbled out of the jail to be taken to nearby hospitals as two of the institution's three wings were set alight.

In six months last year, 26 inmates were killed and 72 injured at Sabaneta, which houses about 3,600 prisoners but is designed to hold 800. Officials regularly seize knives and firearms from inmates. Fermín Marmol León, the Minister of Justice, was expected to fly to Maracaibo to investigate the latest riot.

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## Bentsen aims at US gun dealers

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

The Clinton Administration proposed tough new controls on firearms dealers yesterday and a massive increase in their licence fees as part of a drive to curb the gun violence plaguing America.

Lloyd Bentsen, the Treasury Secretary, said the Administration would ask Congress to raise the annual fee from \$10 (£6.75) to \$600, a move that he predicted would eliminate 200,000 of the country's 244,000 gun dealers and end taxpayer subsidies for the firearms industry.

Mr Bentsen said the present fee "isn't just ridiculous. It goes all the way to reckless". Many dealers operated "out of their kitchens", ignoring rules and regulations, and their numbers made it almost impossible for the authorities to monitor their activities.

The Treasury Secretary also proposed new legislation under which licensed gun dealers would be compelled to keep proper records of transactions, help the authorities trace guns used in crimes, and report lost or stolen firearms within 24 hours. The authorities would have more power to withhold or revoke licences.

The National Rifle Association (NRA) declared the fee increase "entirely unjustified", and the Administration will have a tough time passing the legislation in a congressional election year, but officials believe Americans have grown so sick of

the violence that a solid majority now firmly supports gun control.

Polls show violent crime has shot to the top of public concerns, and Mr Clinton has moved fast to exploit the issue. Last month the NRA suffered a big blow when Congress approved the Brady Bill establishing a five-day waiting period for background checks on handgun purchasers.

New figures yesterday showed that 24 cities set new records for killings in 1993, and for the second year running Gary, Indiana, narrowly beat Washington to the title of America's murder capital.

Gary (population 120,000) was the city whose Middle American values were immortalised in the 1957 Broadway musical. The *Music Man*, but last year 102 murders were committed there. Thomas Barnes, the mayor, blamed "too many guns, too many drugs and not enough jobs".

But December's headlines suggested gun violence is no longer confined to black urban ghettos. Six Long Island commuters were killed on a train, a woman was shot to death in a Philadelphia law firm, four pizza restaurant staff were shot dead in a Denver suburb, two shoppers were shot in Oklahoma and a school superintendent was killed by a teacher at a Michigan school.

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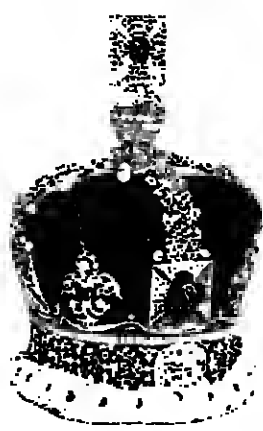
## Part two of an investigation into royalty and politics

## The Queen and her influence

In theory, the monarch is a protection against "elective dictatorship" and the sometimes bad behaviour of the jumped-up political class. Bagehot said that the advantage of a monarch as head of society meant that it controlled the "low sort of ambition and envy" that would otherwise be rampant if the peak of society were something attainable other than by birth. That change has, for good or ill, largely taken place. Social power is seen to be worth nothing; political power is what matters. Elected politics has — or thinks it has — become more important than the monarchy. Bagehot's fear that "politics would offer a prize too dazzling for mankind; clever base people would strive for it and stupid base people would envy it" has started to be realised.

It may be tempting for a monarch, watching with well-bred distress as those damaging the lives and livelihoods of her subjects evade any notion of responsibility for doing so, to seek to give some moral leadership. There is nothing constitutionally to prevent her from doing so. For all we know, she might tick off her Prime Ministers, in their confidential audiences with her, for their bad behaviour in a way that only the Supreme Governor of the Church of England can get away with. Her grandfather, great-grandfather and great-great-grandmother certainly did; and Bagehot thought the moral dimension to monarchy a most important one. Religious and social authority, however, are not enough of a basis from which to be a check upon and a balance to the activities of the modern politician. Today's monarch must be well-informed about public opinion, and not be concerned just with the opinion of Society, as occasionally Victoria and Edward VII were.

Other constitutionalists have taken a far more minimal view than that, seeming to believe that the human feelings of the monarch are best kept to him or herself and an irrelevance to the business of government. The minimalist view, rigidly supported by



Should the Queen involve herself personally in affairs of government or do what she is told? Simon Heffer continues his prize-winning essay on the constraints and moral powers of the monarchy under an unwritten constitution

some more constitutionally progressive politicians, has it that the only role of the monarch is to approve what her Prime Minister tells her to approve, and to ensure that the democratic basis of the constitution is upheld. All this entails is ensuring that a plurality of political parties are able to compete with each other at regular intervals. From this one is meant to deduce, again with the approval of politicians, that the reserve prerogative powers (the few not devolved to the executive) can be used only if elections are stopped, or a one-party state declared.

This gives rise to the view that the monarch is bound to accept advice only if it is constitutional. Those who suggest that it is the monarch's duty to accept advice even if it is unconstitutional — say, compelling her to give assent to the abolition of Parliament and, indeed, the abolition of herself — look at the possibility in a vacuum. This idea supposes that someone determined on those extreme measures would pursue them through the usual channels. The lesson of Russia in 1917 should teach otherwise. Even using entirely constitutional means, though, the monarchy could be abolished or rendered purely ceremonial by a Government determined upon doing so. If the Queen must take the advice of her ministers, advice that she must sign an Act of Parliament transferring

her powers to the president of a republic would seem to be no exception. Any Prime Minister seeking to do this would need to be pretty certain of the support for that view in the country, or catastrophe would ensue.

If the reserve powers are not to mean something, then there really is no point in keeping



The idea of the monarch as referee of the constitution does not work

the monarchy. Those that undeniably still mean something — of dissolution and of for whom to send in the event of an election not returning a Government with a majority in the House of Commons — I shall deal with specifically later. Thanks to our having an unwritten constitution, what the monarchy can or cannot do besides remains a matter for argument. One has to

judge whether the precedents set in the past can possibly be advanced today.

Monarchical influence can take a number of forms. Queen Victoria's political influence was sometimes moral, sometimes personal, sometimes both. Gladstone she loathed personally, and did whatever she could to keep him out of office by co-operating with the Tories whenever possible; something unthinkable today, and which led the discreet Gladstone to describe her attitude as one of "armed neutrality". By contrast, Sir Charles Dilke she came to loathe because of his moral turpitude — he had been cited in a divorce — and requested he be not included in a Liberal government.

There would be nothing to prevent a monarch today letting her Prime Minister know that the personal conduct of one of his colleagues was less than expected of a minister; but the Prime Minister would have to exercise his own judgment about whether the monarch's view was typical of the electorate, and whether damage would be done to the administration by allowing that particular colleague into office or keeping him there. Recent precedent suggests that when a minister has resigned, he may be invited back into the government once he has been returned at a subsequent general election, thereby having shown he has the confidence of the voters: we cannot,

yet, know whether any such resignations have been helped along by royal concern.

Queen Victoria used her influence in at least one way that has had, though, lasting relevance. Palmerston she disliked because of his insolence in executing foreign policy without first informing her. She confirmed with Russell that she had the right to be fully informed of foreign policy executed in her name. This right still pertains, and the present Queen is an assiduous reader of Foreign Office dispatches. When, a little later, Palmerston approved Louis Napoleon's *coup d'état* without her consent, she thought of dismissing him — something she could technically do, but which even in 1851-52 would have dragged the Crown into political struggle. Russell, detecting that Palmerston had broken his earlier undertaking, removed him from the ministry before Victoria could do anything that might have sullied the Crown and smacked too much of her dislike of Palmerston.

The antithesis of the idea of the personally involved monarch is the idea of the monarch as referee of the constitution. This concept does not work either, because the monarch is part of the constitution, though with little freedom of manoeuvre. The idea of the monarch as referee was tried in 1909-11 when the Tory majority in the House of Lords first tried to stop Lloyd George's People's Budget, and then tried to stop the bill that would remove the Upper House's veto. George V ultimately chaired a conference, which directly achieved nothing and risked dragging the monarch into politics.

His father, Edward VII, being aware that a crisis was coming over the Budget and the Lords' veto, had held regular interviews with senior politicians of both major parties in attempts to find a compromise. He had even suggested to Lord Crewe that there might be voting reform, establishing a system of nominated voting peers for each party, to level out the numbers participating in divisions in the Upper House. Whatever Edward VII's private views — and he was, as Charles Douglas-Home points out in *The Royal Prerogative*, unhappy at the prospect of having to accept advice to swamp the Lords with Liberal peers — he recognised that his first duty was to avoid conflict, ensure



Victoria, with Disraeli: they tried to keep Gladstone, whom she loathed, out of office

though, was (as far as the public were to know) where his personal involvement ended. Winston Churchill, the Home Secretary, made a speech hinting that the King would create as many peers as the Liberal Cabinet decided he should. The King was angry, and sent a rebuke to Asquith, reminding him that his name was not to be mentioned by ministers in their speeches. Churchill's citing the King's name was insolent and improper; so it would be today, and such a monarchical rebuke would be as justifiable.



The Queen has the status of an informal court of appeal for her subjects

stability, and allow his Government to be carried on: precedents that successive generations of politicians have taken to be at the heart of constitutional monarchy.

Yet, like the peers, Edward VII was in his place thanks to the hereditary principle, in which he passionately believed. He was unwilling to do anything to undermine it, and was perhaps more careful than his less experienced son to avoid doing anything to involve the Crown in the controversy. Yet a means was found for him to accept unpalatable advice while making it clear where he, personally, stood on the question. When hinting in the Speech from the Throne, at the start of the 1910 parliamentary session, what steps might have to be taken for his Government to get its business through, he said that they would be measures which "in the opinions of my advisers should provide that this House [of Lords] should be so constituted and empowered as to exercise impartially in regard to proposed legislation the functions of initiation, revision and, subject to proper safeguards, of delay".

Now that an entirely unfeudal press exists, it is unlikely that a monarch could get away with such a caveat today. King Edward, though, felt these things too strongly to acquiesce completely, not forgetting his duty to uphold the principle of heredity on which his office was based. That,

although the Budget was passed by the Lords, the matter of the Upper House's veto had still to be thrashed out. The King was dead by the time it was. Lord Esher, his entirely unofficial adviser, had told him that he could refuse to receive advice to create peers. The precedent he cited was from May 1832, when Grey had tendered advice about the Liberal Cabinet decided he should. The King chose not to accept; he accepted Grey's and his colleagues' resignations instead. Esher made the mistake of paying no attention to the evolution of democratic government since the Reform Act. George V, when he succeeded, acted to preserve the Crown by recognising that he could not ignore historical change.

Just as her predecessors canvassed Opposition opinion, the present Queen too has taken to having occasional meetings with the Leader of the Opposition. This is a result of the Conservative party having been in office for so long, and of a quite correct desire on her part to be informed at first hand about the policies of the Labour party. The Leader of the Opposition, being a privy

counsellor, can speak with her on terms of absolute confidentiality, but the Queen may not act on anything he tells her, and nor can he formally advise her in matters of State. The fact that these meetings have started demonstrates an important fact about the benefits of an unwritten constitution. Arrangements can be made or "unmade" to take account of unusual situations; like the same party being in power for many years.

Her more usual political contacts, of course, are with the Government. The monarch sees the Prime Minister for their confidential meeting every Tuesday, unless one or other of them is abroad or otherwise unavoidably committed. The Prime Minister, a privy counsellor, may also give her personal advice. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has an audience every year, before the Budget. The Foreign Secretary sees the monarch more often, notably during State visits abroad or to Britain from other Heads of State. As well as seeing ministers, the Queen also regularly sees diplomats, service chiefs, the Archbishop of Canterbury and other churchmen; and even the head of MI5, among other senior civil servants.

The monarch can see a minister at any time to discuss particular departmental matters: in practice this happens rarely, though she does regularly meet ministers socially and at monthly privy councils. Individual ministers do, though, hear regularly from the monarch. She has acquired the status of an informal court of appeal for her subjects, and each year receives thousands of letters from aggrieved ones seeking help in struggles with officialdom, or for the redress of injustices. These petitions will be passed on by her private secretary to the minister responsible, and action is usually taken promptly. The times are not so democratic that the reference by the sovereign of a subject's problems can be casually treated, and it is unusual to find a Cabinet minister who feels that something the sovereign has come to regard as important should be treated

as though it were not. Of recent Cabinet ministers only Tony Benn has publicly and consistently dismissed the usefulness of the monarch.

Those who have served the present Queen testify that she, on behalf of her people, expects high standards of service and conduct from her ministers: though she might not go so far as George V, who (for example) habitually ticked off his ministers for being improperly dressed. She is a check on their behaviour, and that ultimately is why she retains the reserve powers.

TOMORROW  
The Queen  
and John Major



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# Whodunit to my son?

With the evidence on the cutting-room floor, Libby Purves asks who cut her son's scene in a television mystery

Perhaps you spent your Bank Holiday evenings sitting catatonically through the BBC's three hours of shrieking, sulking, stabbing, period hairdos and murky family secrets entitled *A Dark-Adapted Eye*. This labour-intensive gothic gem was brought to us courtesy of Ru Rendell, a.k.a. Barbara Vine, long established as chief purveyor to the provincial gentry of novels about sick murderers' satisfaction guaranteed, all hang-scenes handcrafted, no psychosis a large or small, let us quote you. So weary adult viewers knew what to expect a sort of later-day Mary Webb chiller with touches of the *Munsters*.

Which was exactly what you got: lots of dishevelled hair, repressed, carving-knives, condemned cells, post-soaked nighties and Helena Bonham Carter in a print frock getting traumatised by a glimpse of seriously unsex in the woodshed in a dripping folk dusk. Routine sort of holiday television, really, for the jaded adult palate.

But spare a thought for the group of star-struck viewers who were through two frightful evenings with it, stuff when they could have been playing Nintendo. Being only ten and eleven years old, and having more naturally wholesome tastes (like good clean Swazenegger shootybang pictures) they would not normally have seen this lurid tripe, or even asked to. But this is the way it was.

Their school was treated last year by the location imagers as the most 1930s-looking place around in a convenient 100 miles. Amid enormous excitement 60 boys of my son's age, and two schoolmasters of particularly obsolete aspect, were chosen as extras. Memos were sent to parents requesting clearance for facial haircuts; the little boys put up with this indignity for the glory of real film.

They were dressed in special wardrobe blazers and ties, least an antiquated school hymn, and put a morning kicking their heels in the school hall waiting for lights, sound, cameras and all the deadly slow, ponderous paraphernalia of filming to be ready for their assembly scene. They did their bit, sang their song, were told if date of transmission, and retired, entitled to await their turn and revel in the envy of those too new-cut or modernised to be chosen.

Well, of course we did them about the cutting-room floor. Affairs of heaving bosoms and shrieking Celia Imrie rolled endlessly past over Christmas, we prepared them for the possibility that they might be dropped altogether, or glimpsed for ten seconds. Anyway, they are old pros, our children, aware how hard it is to make your mark on the cultural scene. The boys visited the *Adventures of Robin Hood* set of *Coronation Street* and sneaked a peek at a bit of hewing-gum under the bar into view, then spent the next weeks yearningly looking out for number 10. But Gillroy's leavage in every set.

But we do think it would have been kind of the BBC to let a school know, after editing, that the scene appearance of the assembly scene was for a few seconds following the opening titles of the first



Sophie Ward (left) and Celia Imrie starred in *A Dark-Adapted Eye*, but some young extras were disappointed

episode. And that there was no long-shot, but only a dozen boys in view; and no hilarious appearance of their teachers wearing even more aged tweed jackets than usual. Nor had the innocent scholars any inkling that the sole function of the whole exercise, including hymn-learning, was to provide an image of innocence for the producers to intercut chillingly with dripping knives, trembled stabbing, ticking clocks coming up to eight o'clock and a rather explicit hanging scene complete with nooses, drop, white hood, and removal of hood to show lacerated neck of Ms Imrie. They could have enjoyed that, dear little chaps. Then they could have gone to bed with their *Star Trek* annuals.

Instead of which—if my own son is any template for the rest—they sat solemnly with their parents for two endless evenings, hoping against hope for another shot of the school hall. His sibling, a sensible girl, gave up with a shudder somewhere between the second reprise of the stabbing beside the rocking-horse and the first episode of suspected infanticide.

The lad bravely soldiered on, stifling yawns, through the homosexual heavings in the woodshed, the miscarriage, endless brooding, shrieking rows in the style of *Cold Comfort Farm*, a few more repeats of the stabbing in artistic black-and-white, the final dissolution of Imrie's hairstyle, the scene where massed shock-troops of nannies snatch an infant from his mother, and another visit to the condemned cell.

We glanced at him uneasily from time to time, wondering if post-watershed BBC would corrupt him, but he seemed so heartily fed up with all this gothic emotion and women's claustrics and sobbings that we decided the only risk was that it might make him one of those men whose idea of emotional release is to murmur "Yes, dear" behind the newspaper.

There was a flurry of excitement on the second night, when the angelic toddler at the heart of the plot (goodness, I hope he wasn't watching; bad enough to have to listen to all that shrieking and be manhandled by actresses) got big enough to wear grey shorts. "He'll have to go to school soon!" we cried. "Wake up, Dad, this could be it!" But alas, we Jamie never did get to school. Or at least, only in that 20 seconds near the titles, three long hours of airtime ago, with my poor lad well out of shot anyway, vainly singing the obsolescent hymn. A wonderful lesson, we thought, in life. Who says the BBC has given up its educational function?

Canada is the enemy now, says a satirical film

## Poking fun at the Cold War

AS THE gangster Al Capone once put it: "I don't even know what street Canada is on." This attitude among Americans towards their northern cousins — more indifference than outright dislike or hatred — has never been fully exploited until now. The film maker Michael Moore has started tapping into those reserves in an effort to turn Canada from a benign neighbour into the new Evil Empire.

His plan is executed in *Canadian Bacon*, shot partly in Toronto. In the tradition of *Dr Strangelove*, the film is a black satire in which the American president makes a secret deal with the defence industry to start a new and extremely lucrative Cold War with Canada. The American public is manipulated by politicians and the media into a fervent of anti-Canadian sentiment.

The danger of massive corporate power — in this case, the defence lobby — is one of Mr Moore's favourite topics. He directed and starred in *Roger and Me*, a wicked, ironic 1989 documentary on General Motors' milking and abandonment of the town of Flint, near Detroit. The film maker endeavored himself to the public as he pursued Roger Smith, chairman of General Motors, to make him account for the devastation of Flint with the loss of 30,000 jobs. It grossed more than \$25 million.

The idea of a New World Order with the Canadians as the enemy came to Mr Moore as he sat watching newsreels of the Gulf War. "We'd given Saddam Hussein \$4 billion in aid to fight Iran, and the very next thing he's the enemy. I started thinking, 'What would be the most absurd example of how the Government and the media could convince people to fear and hate?' And I thought, 'Well, it's right here, the longest unprotected border in the world, the second largest country in land mass after Russia,'" he told *The New York Times*.

*Canadian Bacon* is the military codename for the American plot, and also a double entendre for Americans, since it refers to the circular, watery meat found under their eggs Benedict. There is much play on the general dullness of Canada and its dowdily dressed, politically correct people. Limited news coverage south of the border means most Americans know almost nothing about Canada. Ignorance ensures that their suspicions can be easily aroused. For instance, one of the "un-American activities" listed by warmongers in the film is the cancelling of the Miss Canada contest.

There is also the problem that

Canadians look and sound like Americans, so spies are hard to spot. The problem of sneaky Canadian emigrants in the American media and film industry cannot go unmentioned, and fun is poked at the Canadian actors Donald Sutherland, *Star Trek's* William Shatner, and Raymond Burr.

General Panzer, played by Rip Torn, is head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the one-time job of the real General Colin Powell; and Alan Alda plays the President.

To understand fully Mr Moore's fine-tuned hatred of Canada, one need only visit the Canadian side of Niagara Falls, where much of the film is set. The falls themselves are just fine; the horror lies in the surrounding plastic souvenir shops, and neon-lit, sleazy motels, some equipped with vibrating beds activated by 25 cents in a slot. Crossing the border, tourists realise that they are in a different country, despite the similarity of accents and nylon leisurewear among both peoples.

Mr Moore, tongue firmly in his cheek, says: "What do we really know about what they're doing up there with all that fresh water, all that ice and all those Zamboni machines?" (Zamboni machines smooth ice for skating.)

Mr Moore is a large, shambling man with a signature synthetic baseball cap, who, at 39-years-old, probably should know better. He continues to behave like a rebellious adolescent, despite his Hollywood backing from MGM.

HE THRIVES on adversity and low budgets. *Roger and Me* was made for \$260,000 and the *Flint Journal* once lengthily described Mr Moore as "aggressive, intelligent, abrasive, overbearing, a tough adversary, childishly aloof toward society's restrictions, analytical, manipulative, dedicated, charming, offensive and obsessed with going his own way."

*Roger and Me* was most famous for the Bunny Lady, who deep in Flint's worst-ever recession and unemployment, offered cute furry rabbits for sale as "pets or meat". To Mr Moore, however, "pets or meat" was the film's underlying theme. The General Motors workers were treated as pets by the company for their useful years, then abandoned as dead meat when the car factories moved to exploit cheaper labour in South America.

The only difference in *Canadian Bacon*, due out this summer, is that this time the Americans are trained pets, and the Canadians the meat.



KATE MUIR

Jonathon Porritt is right not to bother with his baronetcy, Walter Ellis says

## Better not to be a Bart



Misters: Jonathon Porritt (left) and Ferdinand Mount

There is something distinctively videohouse about baronets. Perhaps it is the diminutive-sounding nature of the title (like being one of Lord Bath's "wifery"). Perhaps it is the fact of their living style without substance (they are entirely powerless). But in class-conscious Britain, these near-men from the back pages of DeBret are accorded the least dignity of any of our "betters".

It comes as no surprise, therefore, that the Hon. Jonathon Esquire Porritt, former director of Friends of the Earth and a regular pundit on *Any Questions*, should have decided not to use the baronetcy he inherited this week from his father, Lord Porritt, who died on New Year's Day.

Lord Porritt, 81, was granted his baronetcy in 1963 following a distinguished medical career and prior to becoming Governor-General of New Zealand. His son, a radical Old Etonian, might conceivably have used membership of the House of Lords in pursuing his ecologically-sound enthusiasms, but clearly sees no point in recycling a title that confers no advantage other than serving a better table at Quaglip's.

Porritt will assume his latest acquisition jocularly, in inviting friends and family to his memorial service for his father. With his playfully observed, he will quietly deactivate the baronetcy and keep it in his mailbox for the next generation. "There are times in the life of an environmental activist," he said, "when a hereditary title could be something of an anomaly."

Last year Ferdinand Mount, editor of *The Times Literary Supplement*, similarly declined to be squeezed between the tokens of Sir and Bart. Head inherited a

baronetcy from his uncle, Lt Col Sir William Mount, a Berkshire landowner, but though his own nomenclature, like that of Sir Peregrine Worsthorne, cried out for a decent prefix, he decided to linger among the esquires.

Would he equally have declined a dukedom? One doubts it. Mount — though he once advised Number 10 — has no known ambitions to enter the House of Commons, and no-blesse oblige, to say nothing of pride, would surely have affected his judgment. No. The fact is that a baronetcy, being neither fish nor fowl, is easily deflected. Having no function and lacking the knight bachelor's consolation of having won the honour by his own exertions, poor Sir Bart is caught in that uneasy middle

ground: neither true "quality" nor proper commoner.

The Lord Chamberlain, for one, is not impressed. In the table of precedence, baronets are sandwiched between the younger sons of life peers and Knights of the Thistle.

Part of the problem is that they are not an ancient order. They owe their existence to short-term expediency. The first baronets were created in 1611 by James VI for the dubious purpose of creating an officer class to repress Irish Catholics and sustain the Plantation of Ulster. They are, like the Knights Templar, without mystique, sat at the round table only because the high table is full.

None of this is intended to demean current holders of the title. For the most part they are

farmers, deputy lords-lieutenant, Lloyd's brokers or "something in the City", and they do us no harm. Indeed, it could be argued that they add to the glory of the nation.

Sir Denis Thatcher, the most recent appointment to the order, enjoys widespread popularity, and the fact that his controversial son, Mark, will eventually become a *Teran* baronet has provided much innocent amusement around the dinner tables of the chattering class. Sir Denis is a model baronet — slightly distant, direct in his views, happiest on the golf course or in the bar. The fact that he has a title to pass on while his wife, the formidable Baroness Thatcher, felt unable to accept the hereditary peerage that many felt was her due has both a comical and poignant dimension.

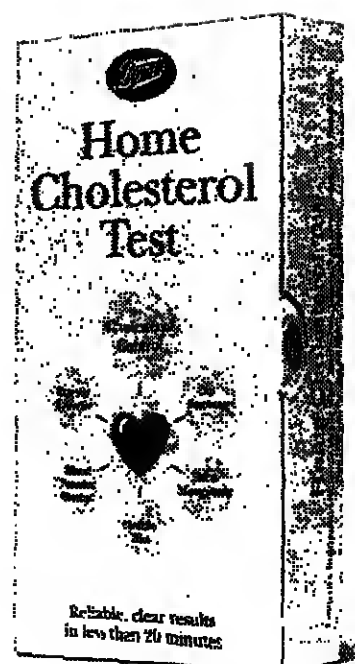
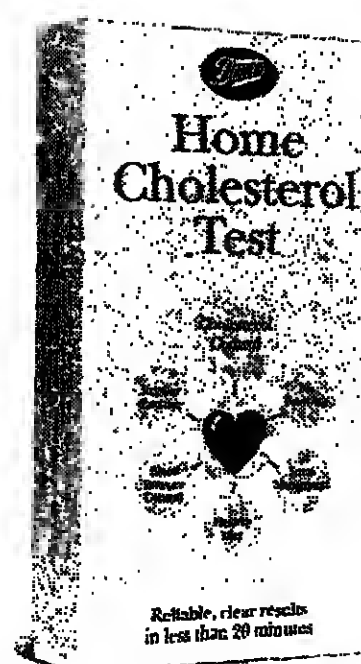
As one would expect, there is an alternative view. Both Charles Moore, editor of the *Sunday Telegraph*, and Auberon Waugh, the right-wing pundit, have argued passionately that such an inheritance should never be denied but worn as a badge of honour.

Waugh virtually accused his friend Mount of class treachery. Moore, only slightly tongue in cheek, observed that if incoming baronets were unable to assume their title then it ought to be possible for others "to take on the burden".

In both their cases, the bookcase effect would seem appropriate, and it is certain there would be others queuing to take the strain. Sales of baronetries would do a roaring trade, knocking lordships of the manor into an appropriate cocked hat. In the meantime, it is as an adornment, entirely without purpose, that they must continue to be viewed. Arise, Sir Bart. Your time is not yet quite expired.

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## Alan Coren



### It takes more than a better mousetrap to catch the wily French

Had they had any inkling, the milling Heathrow mobs, of who he really was, this glistering athlete jinking between them on his headlong dash for Gate 19 and France, they might have been less grudging. Had they twigged his gallant buccaneering mission, they might have watched the wall, my darlings, while the gentleman ran by. But how could they know these things? With his hot hat askew, his beaded bubbles winking at his brim, his de-knot wedged beneath his ear, his boarding-pass flapping in his teeth, his leading hand frenziedly cleaving his passport through the human thicket while his trailing one banged his plastic bag against their knees, he looked like any other sophisticated jetsetter: how were they to guess, as they oohed his plucky bids to jump the security queue, that the line he truly stood in stretched back down all the arches of the Anglo-Gallic years to the very eve of Agincourt itself? How could they know that he was bringing the tennis-balls back, to fling them in mortal challenge at the Froggies' feet?

Even if they had peeked into the plastic bag, they would not have known. The tennis-balls did not look like tennis-balls, they looked like a cheese; but even then, they looked like a cheese only to those who knew what a cheese like this looked like. To the un-grooved eye, it was a black-waxed drum, eight inches in diameter, three inches thick and six pounds in weight. Even for the security man, it was a whole new experience. "A what?"

"Look at the label. It says 'Mature English Cheddar', not say 'Mature Czech Semtex'."

He picked up a long-bladed instrument, and hefted it. I pulled the cheese away.

"It was given to me," I cried, "by Lord Archer! Of." I added crisply, "Weston-super-Mare!"

He faltered, as a lifetime's training struggled with the urge to invite this one to be pulled, on the grounds that it had bells on. And lost. It may have been that I struck him as a man to whom peers give cheese, it may have been that no liar in his right mind would ever dare a provenance as preposterous as Weston-super-Mare, who knows? All that matters is that, a few minutes later, the cheese and I were bound for France.

I have never known why Jeffrey sends people giant cheddars every New Year's Eve. Could be some arcane custom culled from his anthropological brownings, could be an adroit covert pun offered in witty consolation to those who have not made the Honours List to which he is doubtless privy, but whatever its purpose, the hard cheese is always welcome. And never more so than this year. This year I had for it a purpose of my own.

Ever since we set up hut here in Provence, I have been locked in contretemps with our local fromager: since he is not merely a major cheesemonger whose shelves creak with a hundred exemplars of tout curdling from cow, goat and sheep to, for all I know, mare, vole and cat, but also the president of the regional association fromagère, I have for years sought to persuade him to import British cheeses. However, as you know, when it comes, in France, to British comestibles, the market grows suddenly uncommon.

The French have a phrase for it: "Ca n'existe pas." Worse, no matter how vauntingly comprehensive a fromager's advertised claims, he will tell you not merely that British cheese does not exist, but that even if it did it would be inedible. That is why I was acting as gauntlet-bearer to the Black Cheddar of Somerset on its noble challenge to French hegemony. I would cut the fromager a chunk and watch his eyes water, for Jeffrey gives cheddar so mature that it could doubtless make wiser decisions than any member of the Government or its donor so loyally serves. Once tasted by my cheeseman, it would surely, henceforth, be ordered in bulk.

He is an honourable man, and did not, this morning, dissemble. His eyes rolled, his lips smacked, his entire mien compromised his patriotic stance. So will he now, I asked, be ordering it for the tonne? He looked at me. Dear God, how is it that I am so much less mature than my cheese? How could I have been so naïve as to imagine that a Frenchman would give house-room to a cheese so demonstrably superior to his own?

Thus it is that the best-laid schemes of mice and men gang aft a-gley. French mice will never know what they have missed.



"THIS WILL HURT ME AS MUCH AS IT HURTS YOU"

## Death of a profession

Ministers must leave scope for teachers to exercise their own discretion if schools are not to be staffed by automata

Back in the days of prohibition, a courageous Chicago newspaper decided to tell the truth about Al Capone. The editor told his reporter to find Capone and put it to him that he was a crook. The reporter did as he was told, was beaten up and returned bruised and bleeding to his boss's office. "They beat me up," he said. The editor exploded with rage. "You go straight back and tell Mr Capone that I and this newspaper will not be intimidated in this way."

The Education Secretary, John Patten, has sent the nation's teachers on a similar mission over school discipline. They must get tough with the young brats, he says. They must stop pussy-footing and soft-talking. They must stop passing the buck to others. He is angry, up there in the education department. Boy, is he angry! He has stamped his foot with anger, as have his myriad officials.

Indeed he has gone beyond anger. He has circled. Yesterday he put the last piece in the jigsaw of Whitehall guidelines and regulations by which teachers must get back to basics. So far, this new centralised regime has told teachers what to teach (the national curriculum); how to teach (standard attainment targets); where to teach (ideally in schools run by the Government's Funding Agency); and what happens if they teach poorly (performance-related pay and league tables). As to what happens if the little brats simply fail to respond, there has so far been a lamentable gap in standing orders. It is through such gaps that professional discretion, the scourge of Whitehall self-esteem, can so easily pour.

Mr Patten has plugged it. He has spent his holiday thinking up punishments for naughty pupils. Teachers will marvel at their originality. Mr Patten suggests making a child stand in the corner or "isolating" him. If that fails, the Secretary of State suggests more draconian penalties. These include reporting a miscreant to the headteacher, giving him detention during break, depriving him of privileges, suspending him for a period not exceeding 15 days, or — "only as a last resort" — expelling him. Children may be suspended for smoking or drinking alcohol, expelled for bullying or taking drugs. They may not be expelled for becoming pregnant. If this seems arbitrary, remember that absolute power tends to arbitrariness.

Mr Patten's punishments are to be codified by the icy fingers of his underemployed officials into no fewer than six circulars. He will also hand

down edicts on honesty, fairness, right-and-wrong, respect-for-others and politeness. The Ten Commandments have been shortened to the Six Circulars, but they will certainly be ten times as long. Teachers are told that having a "problem" must not be allowed "to prevent a child getting a full education"; but on the other hand, "one child must not be allowed to disrupt the education of others". That takes some beating for platitude. Mr Patten also intends that teachers should "set an example".

This is surely the death of teaching as an independent profession. The essence of a profession is personal discretion, judgment exercised free of state or other interference, based on a corpus of received wisdom. Mr Patten makes a mockery of this definition. The task of cramming pupils for centrally-structured curricula can be performed by any competent pedagogue. It does not need a diploma, let alone a degree.

To be sure, there are bad teachers. Teaching was not the only profession to see troubled times in the 1970s. Architects and politicians did too. But Mr Patten and his predecessors have responded not by helping them back to strength but by deprofessionalising them. The principle of the 1944 Education Act — that school organisation is political, but content is professional — was torn up. The 1988 Education Reform Act sought to make the curriculum what Whitehall calls "teacher-proof". A truly awful 1992 education White Paper casually remarked that when it comes to schooling, "parents know better than educational theorists and administrators and better even than our mostly excellent teachers". If parents are to be treated as better than a "mostly excellent" teacher, where stands that teacher's professionalism? Do patients really know better than doctors? Do passengers really know better than pilots?

The Government's assault on the educators is not giving power to consumers. It is giving power to itself. When Ken-

eth Baker introduced his national curriculum, he was keen to ensure that as little time as possible in the school day was left to teachers' discretion. Not parents but his own staff laid down the core of maths, science, English and the peripheral foundation subjects. Quangoes fixed syllabuses, with much interference from ministers. Huge manuals were issued and complex marking systems ordained and reordained — and are to be re-reordained by Sir Ron Dearing today. Parents were neither seen nor heard. The battle was Whitehall versus the teachers. Whitehall won.

The Conservatives used to be the party of the professions, be-

Simon Jenkins

lieving that pluralist institutions offered checks and balances to a centralised state. A long period in office, however, has rotted that creed. Ministers claim discretion for themselves but dislike it in others. They shudder when a patient is wrongly treated, when a delinquent youth absconds, when a child is found alone at home. They blame the decision of a professional person, and take action to limit that person's future discretion. When a professional sneezes, a minister catches the plague. Officials are ordered to stamp on sneezing, gas all sneezers, take full powers to regulate sneezing in future. God forbid a parliamentary question on sneezing.

I believe that the Government is deprofessionalising Britain by stealth. Judges, surgeons, academics, accountants, lawyers — all are having their discretion curtailed by central government. Greater regulation, internal or external, is inevitable, even sensible. The public demands protection against malpractice and monopoly. It wants to see professions discipline their members, and publicly. Hence the decision of the Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal to hold its hearings in public. The Press Complaints Commission might do well to follow suit.

But there is a world of difference between how doctors or teachers, lawyers or architects should be monitored for malpractice and who should decide the content of their work. I want redress against a doctor who cuts off the wrong leg. But I would be horrified if his treatment was dictated not by his professional training but by the latest findings of the health minister over her Christmas break (as I was shocked by Virginia Bottomley's attempt to ban post-menopausal motherhood).

Education has been prime victim of such interference. I suppose we all think we can teach. The case for a core national curriculum was strong, but by failing to draw one up, the teachers left the job to government instead, and opened the door to interference, centralism and now humiliation. Sir Ron Dearing is expected to advise a slimmer curriculum. He is not expected to reduce the bureaucracy of external assessment or the dictatorship of teachers having to "teach the exam" for fear of their school dropping down the league tables.

Quantification of education's inputs and outputs is not monitoring. It is one of the tools by which the Government can promote its new nationalised system of grant-maintained schools. Anybody who believes these will mean wider parental choice is a fool. As Stuart Seddon warned on this page last week, the first job of the nationalised Funding Agency will be to cope with the existing surplus of 1.5 million empty school places. The agency will be directing reluctant parents to vacant places as never before. Schools left in the local authority sector will merely have to cope with the rejects of this dirigisme.

So I noted the sting in the tail of the draft circulars. Mr Patten has decided in his wisdom that a child can only be expelled to a local council referral centre, or "sin bin", as a last resort. "Too many schools", he says, are expelling disruptive pupils, even for such crimes as smoking or refusing to wear proper clothes. Too many for whose benefit?

At least at present local councils can strive to see that all schools take a share of difficult pupils. The increasingly selective grant-maintained schools will reject potentially difficult pupils, leaving them to tumble down the rejection ladder into the unpopular "sink schools" where they will stick, legally unexpellable. This is a sink schools charter, a splendid case of "from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath". What does the circular say about teaching a spirit of fairness?

## Why I went to Sudan

The churches are the south's best hope, says George Carey

I rise of the camps I have just visited in southern Sudan, a remarkable thing happened. It was at a place called Upt, and it is home to about 35,000 displaced people, refugees in their own land.

It was New Year's Eve, and we were taken to the local Episcopal (Anglican) Church. From my seat in front of the altar I looked down the length of this beautiful church, made of mud and thatched, and was faced with a forest of Dinka crosses held aloft by the emberant congregation. They gave me a rapturous welcome. There I was given my own Dinka cross by Bishop Nathaniel Garag, the Anglican Bishop of Bor. As he did so, a baby dove which had flown to the church that very day swept down and settled on the cross. I was not alone in being struck by the symbolism of the dove, sign of peace, uniting with a symbol of suffering. This juxtaposition is the drama and the tragedy of the Sudan.

That dramatic picture stayed with me during my four-day visit. Few could fail to be touched by the desperate plight of the people Christian and Muslim, of southern Sudan. My wife and I visited a therapeutic feeding centre in Asepi, where young babies and toddlers are taken in for a few months to be brought up to a healthy body-weight. Eileen picked up a child, who weighed 11 lb, and was to be 18 months old. Our grandson, as realised, is the same weight at 6 months.

We hear many harrowing stories. People beg us for help, for food, for an ambulance for a pitifully inadequate hospital, for training for teachers, but above all, for the right to live in their own and without fear, and practise their faith alongside their Muslim brothers and sisters. No visitor could remain unmoved by human misery on such a scale.

True, and again I was told that the most valuable gift we could give was simply to con to be with them. What they most valued was to know that the world had not forgotten them, that they are still part of the human family. It was humbling to realise that my mere presence, was seen as a sign that the Christian world remembers them.

Intensity of need was matched by intensity of life. Here was African worship, African music and dance, conducted with typical exuberance. After my visit to South Africa and Tanzania in 1991, I knew something of the power and serenity of their worship. But in Sudan, the intensity of prayer also made such a profound impression. The familiar words "hymns and prayers" took on an immediate and powerful relevance, and the Gospel sounded in my ears with new clarity. The spirit of these Christians was triumphant over the suffering that surrounds them. If life was more real, I was faith itself. Co-operating in the by Sudan Council for Churches, the churches provide the only social structure in this stricken region.

These little things four long days of my life, how it is important to convert the experience into practical commitment. What can be done? First, religious toleration and freedom of worship must be upheld. The south does not see this as a religious war. All the Christians and Muslims I met insisted they could live together as good neighbours, as they have done for centuries.

Second, southern Sudan is begging for peace. The sea of human need is almost beyond belief. According to World Refugee Survey, five million Sudanese have been internally displaced by the war and natural disasters. There are 263,000 Sudanese refugees living in Zaire, Uganda, Kenya and elsewhere. Southern Sudan, looking to the international community for help. The United Nations must follow up its many resolutions and reports of its special rapporteur, Dr Gaston Biron, who pointed to grave infringements of human rights by the Sudanese Liberation Army and particularly by the Khartoum government. It is true that the army is divided, so weakening the south's capacity to negotiate with the Sudanese government. The south longs for peace, but not at any price: must go hand in hand with justice and freedom. The predominantly Christian south is not prepared to accept a forcible imposition of religion or religious codes of law.

Britain has an important role here. Again and again I told of the special relationship our country has with Sudan. "Why has Britain forgotten us?" I was asked. I hope I was able to reassure them, and that we go on being a voice for them in the power structures of world politics.

Third, I appeal to people in Britain to strengthen, yet further, their commitment, in prayer and practical support. I was present by airship in Akot when a Hercules aircraft touched down with thousands of tons of sorghum provided by European Economic Agencies, to which Christian Aid contributes. Food and medical supplies are still urgently needed.

The dove and the cross. The Pope, when he visited Khartoum, spoke of the experience of the south as "a living Calvary". He was right. But the people there are also experiencing new life as they embrace the cross, seeking the peace that has so long eluded them. Their country is blessed, and we in Britain — to whom the Sudanese southerners naturally look for support — must continue to comfort our brothers and sisters there, so that 1994 for can be a year of peace for all Sudan's people. The Archbishop returned from Sudan this week.

## Scotch that idea

YOU CAN take the Secretary of State out of Scotland, but you can't, it seems, take Scotland out of the Secretary of State. Malcolm Rifkind, who left the Scottish Office four years ago and is now well ensconced at Defence, has marched straight into the row over the location of the new Gallery of Scottish Art. Should it be in Edinburgh or Glasgow? The trustees of the National Galleries of Scotland have controversially opted for Glasgow. Not altogether surprisingly, the MP for Edinburgh Pentlands disagrees.

What is surprising is how publicly he has chosen to voice his dissent. In a letter to *The Scotsman* yesterday, he described the trustees' decision as "unacceptable" and "profoundly mistaken".

Apart from reviving old rivalries between the two cities, his intervention is bound to embarrass Ian Lang, the current Scottish Secretary, who may eventually be required to make peace. Ironically it also sets Rifkind at loggerheads with the nine trustees — seven of whom, including chairman Angus Grossart, he appointed when he was at the Scottish Office.

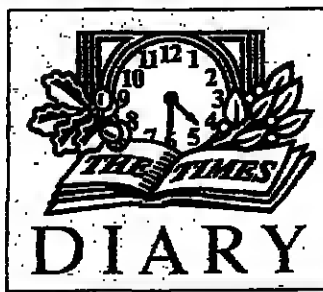
One person watching the dis-

pute with interest is Timothy Clifford, director of the National Galleries in Edinburgh. "I am an Englishman, I feel totally impartial," But the impartial Englishman is backing the trustees, and warns Rifkind to expect a vigorous counter-offensive once he returns from his tour of the Gulf. "Glasgow's supporters have not yet wheeled out their big guns."

### Back to ballet

FOR the first time since he left the Royal Ballet in 1983, Wayne Sleep, the diminutive dancer much admired by the Princess of Wales, has signed up for an extended run with a classical ballet company. The touse-haired 45-year-old has agreed to work for the English National Ballet (whose patron is the Princess of Wales) from the beginning of February to the end of May, in a season which will see him flitting across the stage in more than 30 performances.

Sleep kicks off his comeback in the classical world by playing Dr Coppélius, the cranky toymaker who brings dolls back to life in Debussy's ballet *Coppélia* — a far cry from his current role as the



cat in Birmingham Hippodrome's pantomime, *Dick Whittington*. "He went from classical really to light entertainment," says his manager Brian Marshall. "But ballet is still his true love. I would call him the working man's ballet dancer."

Or the resting princess's?

### Tory heart-throb

CONSERVATIVE ministers, as Tim Yeo is all too aware, need a little support from time to time, but one hopes that none of them resorts to drugs in moments of need. Lord Deedes, however, confesses that just such a need arose at the 1993 Tory conference when he was junior housing minister.

In *Dear Bill*, a forthcoming BBC2 documentary, the former editor of *The Daily Telegraph* re-

calls how he was asked to make a speech at short notice. "I had no paper, no notes. Absolutely nothing. I don't mind admitting to you that my cousin said, 'I think the speech may go better if I give you a purple heart'. It's the only time in my life I have had a purple heart... they all looked like pygmies when I came off the platform."

● *Hatchards, the Piccadilly bookshop which supplies the Queen Mother with her bedtime reading, has mounted an impressive display for Life in the Freezer. Sir David Attenborough's bestselling saga of animal life in the Antarctic. The display appears to be in the cookery section.*

### Unequal to the last

THE yuk-factor notwithstanding, one of the driving forces behind the Orwellian research into the use of eggs from aborted foetuses is the severe shortage of human egg donors. And one of the reasons suggested for that is that while men are often paid to donate sperm, women receive nothing for the far more demanding process of giving eggs.

No one looks better placed to end this obvious injustice than Lady Brittan, who as well as being deputy chairman of the Human

Fertilisation and Embryology Authority and wife of Sir Leon, also sits on the Equal Opportunities Commission. Her views, however, are unlikely to endear her to the band of male medical students who supplement their grants by doing what comes naturally. "We would wish to phase out payment for sperm."

Nor is she in favour of equal opportunities when it comes to reproduction among the over-60s. "That is not what nature intended," she says firmly.

● *Rat-catching British Rail cats are apparently not the only species threatened by the impending privatisation of the rail network. Staff at BR's Sheffield Red Star*

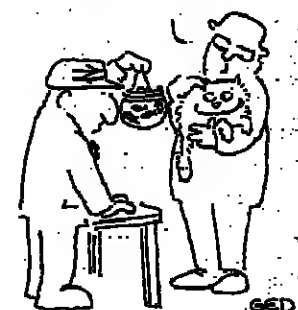
office have now secured the future of the depot's four goldfish. It's a verbal contract, says depot manager Kevin Law. "Anybody who actually takes over the business will have to take on the fish as well." Probably the only bit making a profit anyway.

### Union bashing

SIR TEDDY TAYLOR, the Eurosceptic who is reportedly toying with the idea of standing in this year's European Parliament elections, may have a soulmate or two in the busters. For the first time, the Islamic Party of Britain is planning to field constituents for the Euro-elections in at least three constituencies. And like Taylor, the Islamic party has its feet firmly in the sceptics' camp.

"We will be fighting against things like a single European currency and a European bank, and anything else that amounts to an erosion of national sovereignty," says Sahib Mustaqim Bleher, the party's spokesman.

While the Muslims' hopes are high, Taylor warns that it will be difficult to turn the European tide. "I wish the Islamic party every success, but the sad fact is that the Maastricht Treaty has been signed. I'm afraid they may be shutting the stable door..."







## LESSONS IN BEHAVIOUR

A welcome drive for classroom discipline

John Patten's most common refrain since he became Education Secretary has been that "schools are not value-free zones". He has pressed head teachers to give pupils a sense of right and wrong and campaigned vigorously against bullying and truancy. Yesterday Mr Patten issued general guidelines on school discipline, though scarcely a return to the classroom regimentation of 40 years ago, they offer a welcome disciplinary framework within which teachers can work when faced with disruptive pupils.

The decline in school discipline should not be exaggerated. Last month the Office for Standards in Education reported that most classrooms were orderly and calm. Yet anecdotal and official evidence suggest that disorder mars the prospects of well-behaved pupils and the working lives of teachers in a growing minority of schools. The Elton report commissioned by the Government in 1988 found that almost 2 per cent of teachers faced physical aggression each week and that some schools experienced enormous difficulties maintaining an acceptable level of discipline. Far too many lessons are disrupted by a small number of pupils who cannot be controlled; far too many teachers leave the profession because their lives are made intolerable by indiscipline.

The growth in class sizes is partly to blame. But so too is the liberal educational ideology which has been prevalent since the 1960s. The "child-centred" approach to teaching is inherently hostile to imposed discipline, being founded on the belief that pupils should find their own path to learning. Though few teachers have accepted this doctrine without reservation, many — particularly in primary schools — have felt constrained by it when trying to keep order. In most state schools, disciplinary procedures have remained far too vague: a recipe for injustice as well as disorder.

Each school will now be expected to develop

clear policy on pupil behaviour, which mixes the incentive of praise and the risk of punishment and is published in prospectuses and annual reports. More specifically, the guidelines discourage the exclusion of pupils from school for minor offences such as occasional swearing or failure to complete homework. But this is not a centralist measure, establishing fixed penalties for each act of misbehaviour. Teachers have been given no new powers; nor has the Education Secretary introduced sanctions for schools that do not follow this advice. The merit of the guidelines is that they establish a general benchmark against which heads, teachers and parents can measure disciplinary policy in their own schools.

Two matters remain unresolved, however. The 1989 Children Act has made many teachers afraid of issuing reprimands to pupils as this may be misrepresented in court as verbal abuse. Yet again, poor drafting has left legislation open to dubious interpretation; it is essential that the Education Department's review of the relevant sections of the Act be carried out speedily and effectively.

Secondly, it must not become too difficult for schools to exclude the most unruly pupils. The new guidelines are intended to limit exclusions, and to keep children at school until all other measures have failed. Though none could quarrel with this objective, there should be no further attempts to restrict the rights of head teachers to exclude and expel children, rights which have recently been curtailed by new funding arrangements and by the 1993 Education Act. Ministers should regard the provision of pupil referral units for excluded pupils as an essential item within the educational budget. If today's Dearing report on the national curriculum is to be effective, schools must not be denied the authority necessary to maintain a tolerable working environment.

## THE PEASANTS' REVOLT

Mexico will suffer if modernisation ignores democracy

After a poor turnout in two state elections last July Mexicans joked that the football match the same day between Mexico and Argentina had proved far more attractive — because the result was not known in advance. The paradoxically named Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) has ruled the country since 1929, bringing a measure of stability at the price of corruption and electoral fraud. But when frustration with the system explodes, as now in the impoverished southern state of Chiapas, there is no democratic safety valve for letting off steam. In this case the result was scores of fatalities.

The conflict between guerrilla leaders in Chiapas and the authorities has a sad, familiar ring. Quarrels between wealthy ranchers, landlords and the peasantry over land have been behind many insurgencies further south in Central America. These disputes have roots in ancient quarrels between Cortes's Spanish conquistadores and the dispossessed American Indians.

Centuries of oppression bred a culture which led to American Indians being treated hardly better than serfs by the landowning classes. Even after the 1910 revolution, the plight of the Indians, successors of the great Mayan culture, scarcely improved. Guerrilla fighters who ignore the demise of the old war still look for a solution to the common people's woes in socialism.

The insurrection coincides with the formal start of the North American Free Trade Agreement, signed by the United States, Canada and Mexico late last year, which should eventually benefit Mexico's poor. But the guerrillas claim that this capitalist pact's benefits will only be felt in the industrialised north and will lead to the destruction of the Indian's traditional way of life in the south.

Although the insurgents hardly represent a major threat to the security forces, the Government is uneasy. President Salinas de Gortari has won the plaudits of First World bankers for his imaginative economic reform programme, his free-trading credentials and assaults on the bloated state sector. But his government still lacks legitimacy. In 1988, after an election in which it is still not clear whether he won a plurality of votes, President Salinas and his *technico* government promised "democracy and modernisation with growth". Five years later he has delivered on the economy but he has failed to deliver democratic reform.

Señor Salinas defends his record by pointing to the fate of Mikhail Gorbachev and the former Soviet Union. He argues that economic reform must precede political change. Critics of the regime point to a culture of corruption, unbridled drug trafficking and a country where the rule of law is nominal at best. Mexican journalists who are not suborned by government economic pressure have an exceedingly high mortality rate. The peasants' revolt in Chiapas, which has one of the worst human rights records in Mexico, is a symbol of the country's social dislocation.

But in the long term, it may be hard for Mexico to continue as a one-party state. NAFTA could end up bringing true democracy to the country along with free trade and inward investment. Later this year Señor Salinas's chosen successor, Luis Donaldo Coloso, will fight a national election, probably with billions of dollars worth of patronage at his disposal. Whether or not he bears his left-wing opponent, Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas, the winds of change from the north will continue to blow.

## ELEVEN PIPERS PIPING

With the arrival of the pipers, our midwinter revels lapse into Marx-Brother metaphysics, and the obsessive bounty of the true love takes on a threatening note. The appropriate response to the true love would be 11 gorillagrams, and an order for ear-muffs.

Bagpipes, like haggis and the vexed question of what is worn under the kilt ("Nothing, it's all in perfect working order"), are aspects of the Scottish idiosyncrasy that superior Sassenachs affect to find funny. Three centuries ago, that bigoted London nationalist, Samuel Pepys, wrote that the skirl of the bagpipes was "at its best, simply barbarous music"; more recently P. J. O'Rourke engaged in the dangerous sport of Scots-baiting by remarking: "Their idiot music has been dreaded by those not blessed with deafness for at least five centuries." For Celtic and Balkan races, perhaps because they tend to live in remote mountains, the pipes make old and beautiful music. For us they have become a national symbol. Along with the kilt, pipes were banned at the abortive 1715 and 1745 risings, but Government found that the new regiments they set up to police the Highlands used to march without their pipes. Pipers put a swagger back in the weariest of over the shoulder or high road, and a ment marching through its home town — pipes playing and bayonets fixed is a spectacle to bring tears to the driest eye. The British Army went into the First World War

with seven pipe bands, but came out of it with more than 100, so potent was their skirl and drone at driving men over the top. A Black Watch march called Black Bear has a periodic pause for bloodcurdling screams from the charging troops: a piper won the VC for continuing to play it while lying on the sand mortally wounded at Alamein.

Modern tactics find less use for massed infantry charges. Accordingly, last year's reorganisation will reduce the British Army's pipe bands to two, Highland and Lowland. But the martial music of the pipes was almost as successful an export around the Empire as cricket, and is still used to keep regiments in step and morale high from the Indian subcontinent to Australia and from South Africa to Canada, and even America.

The intricacies of the pibroch, passed down orally by hereditary pipers, preserve the last enchantments of the old clan civilisation before the men in suits took over from the men in blankets. Pipes, whether bagpipes or simple flutes, are some of the oldest musical instruments in the world. They are democratic, easily made by the poorest people, but capable of great subtlety. As an instrument for dancing, pipes suit all levels of society. But he who plays the piper calls the tune. As a precaution, any recipient of 11 pipers piping should ask them to play across a loch, preferably as wide as Loch Lomond. The way to enjoy pipes is from a safe distance.

## The moral price of donor births

From the Archbishop of York

Sir, Current controversies over so-called "designer babies" (reports, January 4, etc. letters, January 1, 4) have a common ethical root. It is important not to distract attention from this by focusing on such subsidiary questions as the age of the mother or the colour of the child. The main ethical issue is the use of donors in the reproductive process, and the massive consequences of this are now fully revealed in the most recent proposal to use foetal ova.

From the start the churches have been suspicious of artificial insemination by donor. They have drawn a clear moral distinction between the use of donors, whether of sperm or ova, and "assisted reproduction", including in-vitro fertilisation (IVF), whereby a couple are enabled to have a child which is genetically and in every other way their own. Unfortunately IVF also opens the door to other permutations and combinations on the theme of gamete donation, of which the latest examples are perhaps only a foretaste.

The main moral objections to the use of donors centre on the problems of identity, and the nature of the reproductive process. Worries about the sense of identity of children born by these means have frequently been expressed, and never satisfactorily answered. The intrusion of third, or even fourth, parties into the reproductive process breaks the normal continuum of love, sexual intercourse, gestation, and parental care.

Though the use of donors may satisfy individual wants, it could have profound long-term social consequences in furthering a mechanistic and consumer-orientated approach to a basic human experience. An American writer, Andrew Kimbrell, has coined the phrase, "the human body shop", which neatly sums up the direction in which our culture is moving, in its aspirations towards children as products rather than gifts.

It would be naive to imagine that the use of donors could now be halted. There is still time, though, to ensure that it is not further encouraged, or carried out into even more bizarre variations. Priority could be given to those forms of infertility treatment which concentrated on the use of a couple's own gametes, on the grounds that the easier option of harvesting gametes from other sources is likely to lead us into a deeper and deeper ethical morass.

Research-funding agencies which care about such matters could give a moral lead when allocating their resources. And public opinion could be educated to accept that the price of meeting a few unfortunate people's desire for children is morally too high.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN BOLT  
Bishopthorpe Palace,  
Bishopthorpe, York.  
January 4.

## Medical mishaps

From Mr David Bolt

Sir, I read with great sympathy the articles by Jeremy Laurance and Roger Dobson (December 20) criticising the way the present system of litigation operates in cases of medical mishap, particularly with respect to the delay involved in reaching settlements of compensation.

As they indicated, the problems arise from the continued use of the tort principle and could readily be corrected by the introduction of a system of "no-fault" compensation, such as is operated in several countries, notably Sweden.

The Royal Commission on Civil Liability and Compensation for Personal Injury, usually known as the Pearson Commission, which reported in 1978, said of the tort system that it is too costly, too cumbersome, too prone to delay and too capricious in its operation to be defensible, yet we continue to employ it.

It seems unlikely that when the enquiry currently considering the impact of litigation upon the finances of trust hospitals makes its report, it will recommend any major change.

The support which Mr Laurance and Mr Dobson have given to a move to a no-fault system is, therefore, most welcome.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID BOLT  
(Chairman, BMA working party on no-fault compensation),  
British Medical Association,  
BMA House, Tavistock Square, W.C1.  
December 29.

## Assessing the Lords

From Mr Peter Bottomley,  
MP for Eitham (Conservative)

Sir, Leading article today: "Few regard it (the modern House of Lords) as more than a harmless relic of the past and a convenient retirement home for elderly or barbed politicians."

Obituaries today: Baroness Elliot, Viscountess Wintborne, Lord Porritt. No other.

Yours humbly,  
PETER BOTTOMLEY,  
House of Commons.  
January 4.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

## The provocation of North Korea

From Mrs Elizabeth Young

Sir, The North Koreans have as much right to own nuclear weapons as any other sovereign state, including the United States (leading article, December 27). They would have to withdraw from the Non-Proliferation Treaty to do so, but their right to withdraw is guaranteed by the treaty.

Certainly the North Koreans' situation has changed since they signed the treaty in 1985. First, the Soviet Union, previously their supporting superpower, has collapsed, and Russia is not inclined to provide equivalent protective guarantees.

Second, the United States continues, regularly and frequently, to conduct massive nuclear-capable exercises right up against North Korea's border and airspace, even simulating attacks on its coast: just the kind of thing, unfortunately, to which North Korea needs a deterrent nuclear capability of its own.

Moreover, the 40-year-old armistice has left a single United States general as commander-in-chief of the United Nations "forces" still in South Korea, as C-in-C of the South Korean forces, and as C-in-C of the US forces in South Korea. He commands the various nuclear-capable exercises, of which the United Nations takes no cognisance. None of which can reassure North Korea about the role of the UN.

Note that the Japanese government, precisely in order not further to inflame the atmosphere in the area, recently moved some exercises it was due to conduct opposite the Korean peninsula right away to one of its southernmost islands. Note also that the United States has no objection to Israel's substantial stockpile of nuclear weapons.

The US seems to believe that Israel has acquired nuclear weapons recently for the deterrence they provide. In fact, there is little reason to think the North Koreans, or any of the other "rogue states", seek anything else than deterrence: they do not want to be pushed around. So when you

suggest that we, and the Chinese, and the Japanese, and the South Koreans, and the rest of the world, should simply accept the US judgment, the answer has to be: not while they so signally fail to recognise the consequences of their own actions.

Yours etc.  
ELIZABETH YOUNG,  
100 Bayswater Road, W2,  
December 27.

From Mr Aidan Foster-Carter

Sir, As someone who has studied North Korea for a quarter of a century — following events there daily for over a decade — I deplore the sabre-rattling talk indulged in by the Lee Williams in their letter of December 29, and indeed by your own leader of December 27.

By common consent, Kim Il Sung's regime is idiosyncratic, isolated and bellicose. The need for vigilance has not lessened in the past 40 years, and may now be increasing. What I regret is the lack of imagination in Allied policy towards Pyongyang, which can only serve to make North Korea feel more cornered than ever. In all this waving of sticks, who has even tried the carrot? In the neighbouring case of China, political uncertainty *vis-à-vis* Hong Kong and Taiwan has been much reduced by the growth of a dense mesh of economic ties in recent years. Would that the US and South Korean governments would relax their bans on (respectively) trading with, and investing in, North Korea.

That way, ordinary North Koreans could see for themselves the benefits of capitalism and of a more open attitude towards the outside world.

Their bankrupt economy means that they would have little choice but to accept.

Yours faithfully,  
AIDAN FOSTER-CARTER,  
As from Merrit Consulting,  
4th floor, Chase Plaza Building,  
34-35 Chung-dong,  
Choong-ku, Seoul, South Korea.  
January 4.

## Town hall review

From Miss Regina Kibel

Sir, If local government reorganisation (letters, December 21, 28, 31) results in the abolition of large councils, then, to quote Sir John Boynton's essay of December 13, "the Government would have to deal mainly with small or medium-sized local authorities lacking the expertise and resources available to the existing large county councils. Centralisation and the marginalisation of local government could continue apace, with less chance of opposition".

The Government apparently cannot stomach any power base that can challenge its own. People's choice is acceptable only if it concurs with the Government's views. Influential local authorities, chosen by the people of their areas, cannot be relied upon to deliver such agreement — hence the effort to destroy or undermine them.

Yours faithfully,  
REGINA KIBEL,  
7 Barham House,  
Molyneux Street, W1.  
January 1.

## Greek resilience

From Mr G. A. Michaelides

Sir, In your leading article about Greece ("Our Balkan cousins", December 22) you state that "the value of Greece in any security arrangement is unlikely to be great".

Leading article writers and politicians have very short memories indeed. In the last war, when Greece was even poorer than today, they beat the Italian Fascists and held the unstoppable might of Nazi Germany much longer than the French. Their resistance against the occupation reached heroic proportions and saved the lives of countless British soldiers.

As Churchill said in *The Second World War*, vol 3: "Greek martial honour stands undimmed."

Yours faithfully,  
G. A. MICHAELIDES,  
76 Turnpike Lane, N8.  
December 22.

## Goin' a' Thomasin'

From Mr R. M. Brettell

Sir, The custom of begging on St Thomas's Day (Mr S. J. Davies's letter, December 23) was still alive in this part of the Black Country when I was a boy some 60 years ago.

There was one old man who used to come to our house on December 21 every year, and when the door was opened he would recite the rhyme: Please to remember St Thomas's Day. The longest night and the shortest day. If you haven't got a penny,

a ha'penny will do. If you haven't got a ha'penny, God bless you!

He would bob up and down all the time he was reciting, and when he reached the end of the verse he would take off his cap and hold it out for a donation. He always received a silver threepenny bit.

We knew this custom as "Gooding Day", the vowel being pronounced long as in "cooling", and I see that the Oxford English Dictionary records this usage.

As far as our visitor was concerned, the custom died out in the 1930s, and I

## A little older, a little wiser?

From Mr Ian Flintoff

Sir, Your education correspondent's assertion (report, December 27) that people in the age group 50 to 69 are less "educated" than those now in their late teens or twenties deserves analysis.

The 50 to 69 group is not homogeneous. Those older than 60 will, at best, have been allowed to sit the School Certificate. This exam cannot be compared to anything that exists today since it was quite possible to do well in certain subjects and still "fail" the exam, thus being denied any certificate of accomplishment for life.

Then came the General Certificate of Education, which made greater demands for its award than the Certificate of Secondary Education that was introduced in 1965.

The GCSE, introduced in 1988, is still at a comparatively early stage to judge its effect on true educational standards in the adult population. The effect of these changes has been that younger people (in my view quite correctly) have something more to show than older ones for the years they have spent in full-time education.

But it is arguable that older people, victims of a system which denied them easy access to paper qualifications, are in fact more "educated" than younger ones, in terms of literacy, numeracy and a sound understanding of social, political and cultural matters.

Many older people often confound with some sadness that they are surprised how many young people seem ill-informed, inarticulate, indifferent, and socially and politically unaware, given the enormous technological opportunities for enlightenment at the present time.

Yours sincerely,  
IAN FLINTOFF,  
22 Chaldon Road, SW6,  
January 1.

## Nursery education

From Mr David Soskin

Sir, As the founder of a fast-growing provider of pre-school education and daycare, I am appalled that John Major is contemplating providing more places in state nursery education (report, December 23).

I had understood that it is Conservative policy for the State to be the enabler and not the provider of services. Whilst the Moser Commission is correct that nursery school education should be a priority, it is surely not the answer for the State directly to provide the places.

The private sector is well placed to cater for the needs of the under-fives. It can do this at a lower cost and at a higher quality than the Government could possibly manage.

If John Major wants to ensure that provision is available to all, irrespective of income, the Education Secretary's decision to study plans to provide vouchers to eligible parents (report, December 27) is to be welcomed.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID SOSKIN,  
71 New End, Hampstead, NW3.

## Star of Bethlehem

From Dr Patrick Moore

Sir, May I, as someone who looks at the sky a great deal, make a quick comment about the Star of Bethlehem? Of course stars and planets do not move in this way (letters, January 1); the old red herring of a planetary conjunction (Jupiter and Saturn, in 7BC) has been raised again, but is completely out of court, if only because it was not brief and anyone could have seen it.

The only astronomical object which would move quickly eastward would be a meteor. Two meteors in roughly the same path, at an interval, would not have been widely seen. So if there is anything in the story, surely this is the only plausible answer.

Yours faithfully,  
PATRICK MOORE,  
Farthings, West Street, Selsey, Sussex.  
January 1.

## Howzat

From Mrs Stan Dalrymple

Sir, Amongst his presents this Christmas my father received a miniature cricket bat signed by Imran Khan. We were amused to see a tag attached saying, "Imran Khan: Sussex and England." If only we might have beaten the Pakistanis then.

Yours faithfully,  
SIAN DALRYMPLE,  
12 Offerton Road, SW4.

## Still submerged

From Dr Alistair Chesser

Sir, Mr J. G. Bagley (letter, December 31) will no doubt be relieved to hear that in Malawi the cliché "the tip of the iceberg" is little understood, most of the population having had no experience of such things. The equivalent is "the ears of the hippopotamus".

Yours faithfully,  
ALISTAIR CHESSER,  
Kamuzu Central Hospital,  
PO Box 149, Lilongwe, Malawi.  
January 2.











# On the road to ruin

Richard Leighton has only ever known one home, the Victorian house he was born in 44 years ago. He shares it with Ellen, his 80-year-old mother, who moved in after her wedding in 1938. It is in Leyton, east London, and stands in the path of a six-lane highway.

The Leightons are among more than 1,200 people who will lose their homes when the road scythes through Wanstead. Leytonstone and Leyton to connect the A102(M) in Hackney with the M11 in Redbridge.

Work began in autumn on the Wanstead leg of the road but has been frequently interrupted. Protesters delayed the start of work on the link by squatting in two Wanstead houses due for demolition in September. In December, protesters reached a frenzy when environmentalists and residents objected to the destruction of trees in the path of the road clashed with police. But work continues and the road is due to reach Leyton this summer and is likely to be completed in about four years time.

By law, property in the road's path is compulsorily purchased at market value, and removal expenses paid. Compensation for the distress and inconvenience of moving is 10 per cent of the market value of the property, subject to a minimum of £1,500 and a £15,000 maximum. Tenants may be entitled to a flat payment of £1,500 if the Department of Transport uses compulsory powers to buy from their landlord.

Nearby in Colville Road, John Ellis and his partner, Elaine, have lived in a housing association flat for ten years. In September, they had a baby — now they have to leave.

Mr Ellis is unclear about his status, but hopes for compensation because he suspects that his only choice is to buy a house out of the area. He says: "There is no organised effort from any Government department to alleviate the suffering that is inevitable with the uprooting of so many people along this road. The local authority simply has nowhere to put people. There's been no real effort to solve the problem of all those being made homeless."

For other homeowners, the road will not demolish their property but will pass within a few yards of it. Across the road, Adinaolom Permalie faces this prospect and intends to apply for compensation for any fall in value of his house. By law, he will get nothing for five years because his claim cannot be

## Compulsory purchase can result in poor compensation. Christine Webb reports

put until a year after the road has been opened.

He has instructed Peter Flint, a chartered surveyor of Flint & Partners, Chelmsford, Essex, which specialises in road-compensation cases. Only partial compensation is paid in such cases because the law does not take into account the impact of a road's visual effect on property values.

"It can mean the loss of big sums," Mr Flint says. "The worst-case scenario is if you own a country cottage with wonderful vistas, and 10yd from your garden fence they build a motorway rising to 15ft. Your cottage's value would drop and you are not compensated for visual loss."

"Under the Land Compensation Act 1973, people can make a claim if they can prove the value of their house has been diminished by the physical factors: noise, vibration,

smoke, smell, artificial light and the discharge of liquid. Property values near the M25 fell by 20 per cent because of the physical aspects alone. I think people should be compensated for the full fall in value of their property, taking into account the visual impact."

A claim cannot be made until the first anniversary of a road's public use, Mr Flint says. Then negotiations start. "I handled 850 claims from people living near Newcastle upon Tyne's western bypass, and about 800 got compensation. But if someone has to move before the first anniversary of a road opening, they may get substantially less for their property than they would if there were no road, and they lose compensation rights."

Brett Walker, a partner in the surveyors Lloyd Williams, of Epping, represents some households affected by the M11 link road. He

says there is little chance of the Transport Department buying a property blighted by its proximity to a road.

"I had a letter from the department, saying that since 1991 only 55 houses near roads, out of the thousands affected, have been bought," he says. "Through the law says that properties 'seriously' affected by a road can get secondary glazing, the department's interpretation of that has changed from 68 decibels of road noise, which has been a guideline since 1975, to 78 decibels. The effect is like having a factory operating outside your front window."

Property values undoubtedly suffer because of new roads. Carl Stearn, residential manager of Streetsons, a local estate agency, thinks that only the value of properties adjacent to the M11 link will be directly affected. "In similar cases we have come across on the North Circular," he says, "prices fall by 20 to 25 per cent on what a buyer would normally expect to pay. Properties more than 150yd from the road are far enough away and it might even make them more convenient — the road's going to make an easy route out of the area. So some people welcome it."

## THE PROTESTER



Richard Leighton (pictured above outside his home), the chairman of the No M11 Link Road Campaign, does not want to sell his home to the Transport Department, yet it will be subject to a compulsory purchase order. Mr Leighton, whose home is probably worth £65,000 to £77,000, would get £6,000 to £7,000 compensation — little inducement, he thinks, to leave. The Leightons have not agreed to negotiate, but have been offered £67,000 for their property. A notice to quit asks them to leave their three-bed, two-reception house by September 23, another by November 30.

"The money can never compensate you for moving out of your home."

"They've started work at Wanstead but we've delayed them about three years and we're planning to delay them another three. My lawyer says I have to go, but I do not want to. Neither does my mother."

"Owner occupiers have no rights whatsoever. They can kick us out of our home at seven days' notice and put us in a hotel. The department wanted me to fill out a 'notice to treat', which opens negotiations and says I must sell the house to them."

"If the Government offered more reasonable compensation, it would get the houses much sooner, which would cost it less staff time."

A Transport Department spokesman comments: "The valuation is done on the basis of the property's value if the road was not there. The Department of Transport is obliged to pay the open market value of the house. The Department of the Environment has set the policy, and these are principles by which we must abide."

An Environment Department spokesman explains: "The district value values a property. The owner can negotiate on the market value, and if he or she can't agree, can go to the independent Lands Tribunal, which is like a court. We draw up the policy and it is implemented, in this case, by the Transport Department."

Last year, 54 of the 270 cases dealt with by the tribunal involved the Transport Department, which provides no information on what outcome. The road campaigners claim that most people fall by the wayside or settle before a hearing. Perhaps at least one good measure may come out of this membership of the European Community. In France, they don't have these problems because people get 25 per cent above the market value as compensation for moving.



An artist's impression of how a typical street in Poundbury will appear when work is completed

## Homes fit for a prince

Builders have just laid the foundations for the first homes at the Prince of Wales's dream village of Poundbury. Poundbury will contain 2,500 homes on 400 acres of prime Dorset land near Dorchester. The village will be nothing like the large modern estates that the Prince sees as "impersonal, soulless areas of housing which crush the human spirit."

In a recent speech, the Prince said: "Children, it seems, were not designed to live in tower blocks." In Poundbury children will live in houses so traditional they could have been built before Thomas Hardy's days. They will sleep under recycled Welsh slate roofs, their curtains drawn against perfectly proportioned small-paned windows set into stone walls. They will walk to the (new) local shops along kerbs of real stone, down streets lined with closely-spaced houses and play in grassed squares. On their return they will find their cars parked in a real car park.

The architectural emphasis will be on variety and on the local vernacular, which has dictated a design code of acceptable materials: local stone, flint, specified brick, slate and clay panes. It also specifies roof pitches, details of chimneys and windows.

The masterplan laid out by Leon Krier, the architect and urban planner, is thoroughly traditional.

## Work has begun on Poundbury, the dream village of the Prince of Wales

with winding streets that lead somewhere rather than the dead-end cul-de-sacs that isolate the closes of suburbia. Poundbury will consist of four districts, each with shops, offices and community and leisure facilities in an attempt to reduce reliance on the car. It aims to look like a place that has evolved over time.

But the best clues to Poundbury's style — it is already setting a trend — comes from the work of local builder C.G. Fry & Son. With Ken Morgan, a local architect also involved in the Poundbury project, they have recently finished two developments at Abbotsbury and Broadwindsor near Dorchester which give an idea of what Poundbury will be like.

Poundbury's co-ordinating architect, Peter John Smyth, of Percy Thomas Partnership, Bristol, and four Dorset architects also designing houses for Poundbury have all seen these developments.

C.G. Fry are building the first 61 homes at Poundbury and will sell 26 for between £70,000 and £150,000. "The quality of life for people living in these houses will be

better than on other modern estates," says Mr Philip Fry, a director. "Building in the vernacular costs more but the prices will reflect that."

While a pretty place like Poundbury is bound to appeal to the middle classes, care has been taken to encourage a mix of social strata. The other 35 houses will be let by the Guinness Trust Housing Association at rents ranging from £53 a week for a two-bedroom flat to £68 for a four-bedroom house.

Prince Charles must hope that his approach proves an answer to modern social ills. "In some places we have become very successful in building houses no one wants to live in," he said. "It seems to me that we need to rediscover perhaps some of the more traditional approaches."

Architect Mr Smyth, a specialist in vernacular design, says the Prince's hands-on approach has touched design details right down to the choice of lampposts.

"We've had a great struggle finding lampposts that look right without seeming twee," he says. "We designed a wall that was joining straight into the side of the house and the Prince pointed out it would, traditionally, curve where it met the house, so that's what we've done. He's genuinely interested in improving the quality of people's surroundings."

CHRISTINE WEBB

## Chancery Division

## Law Report January 5 1994

## Queen's Bench Division

### Stringent test in arbitration appeal

Secretary of State for the Environment v Euston Centre Investments Ltd  
Before Mr John Cherrymman, QC  
[Judgment December 9]

A more stringent test for striking out purposes applied to appeals to the High Court from the awards of arbitrators, whether in commercial or property disputes, than to actions commenced in the High Court.

A failure to conduct and prosecute the appeal from an arbitral award with proper despatch was sufficient to justify the proceedings being struck out for want of prosecution.

Mr John Cherrymman, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Chancery Division, so held in a reserved judgment when allowing the application of Euston Centre Investments Ltd for an order to strike out for want of prosecution proceedings initiated by the Secretary of State for the Environment.

Mr Michael Barnes, QC and Mr John Male for Euston Centre Investments; Mr Jonathan Gaunt, QC, for the Secretary of State.

HIS LORDSHIP said that

Euston Centre was the landlord and the Secretary of State the tenant of premises let by a lease dated May 9, 1970 which was subject to seven-year rent reviews.

As the parties could not agree the market rent on the third rent review, determination of the rent was referred to an arbitrator who, having heard the parties, made his award on May 28, 1992 determining the market rent as at March 25, 1991 at £7,760,000 a year.

The tenant sought leave to appeal within 21 days as required by Order 73, rule 5 of the Rules of the Supreme Court but since then there had been deplorable delay.

The landlord's application to strike out the tenant's proceedings was made under the inherent jurisdiction of the court. Mr Gaunt submitted that that jurisdiction had to be exercised in the present case in accordance with the principles stated by Lord Diplock in *Birkett v James* (1978) AC 371, 383.

It was accepted that if that were the correct test the landlord's application would fail as it could not establish that the delay would give rise to a substantial risk that it

was not possible to have a fair trial of the issues in the action or was such as was likely to cause or to have caused serious prejudice to the defendants either as between themselves and the plaintiff or between each other or between them and a third party.

Mr Barnes, however, submitted that the *Birkett v James* principles did not apply to appeal proceedings in the High Court pursuant to section 1 of the Arbitration Act 1979, in particular applications for leave to appeal under section 1(3)(b). The proper test, he said, was whether there had been failure to conduct and prosecute the appeal, or application for leave, with proper despatch.

Mr Barnes pointed out that in *Birkett v James* the House of Lords was concerned to state the appropriate test to be applied in actions where the dispute between the parties had yet to be resolved.

He argued that nothing said by the House of Lords in that case bound the court to apply the same test in a case such as the present where the arbitrator had already resolved the dispute subject to it being possible to take a question of

law to the High Court under the special statutory procedure if leave to do so was obtained.

In such a case, he submitted, a more stringent test had to be applied for striking out purposes, otherwise the legislative intention inherent in the 1979 Act to promote speedy finality in arbitral awards would be in danger of being thwarted.

After consideration of the authorities: *The Andros* (1985) AC 191, *Mustill and Boyd on Commercial Arbitration* (1989) 2nd edn, para 611, *The Concordia* (1985) 2 Lloyd's Rep 50, *Metro Oil SA v Coastal International Inc* (1988) 2 Lloyd's Rep 238, *The Leon* (1988) 2 Lloyd's Rep 470, and *Urban Small Space Ltd v Burford Investment Co* (1993) 2 EG LR 120, 121, his Lordship agreed with him.

His view was that the principles stated by Lord Diplock in *Birkett v James* were intended to define the inherent power to strike out actions that had yet to be tried. Nothing said by the House of Lords was intended to place strict limits on the manner in which the court should exercise its inherent jurisdiction in proceedings of a different type.

The manner in which the leave to appeal procedure introduced by section 1(3)(b) of the 1979 Act was utilised by parties aggrieved by arbitrators' awards was something that the court had to control strictly in order to prevent abuse of the procedure.

Judges had to be vigilant to prevent frustration of the intention of Parliament to promote speedy finality in arbitral awards. The duty to exercise the inherent power to strike out had to be one of the weapons available to the court whether or not serious prejudice was likely, and in saying that his Lordship did not define any distinction between cases involving commercial disputes and cases involving property disputes.

His conclusion therefore was that the inherent power to strike out such an application for leave was not limited by *Birkett v James* principles but was exercisable wherever there had been a failure to conduct and prosecute an appeal with proper despatch.

When leave to appeal from an award of an arbitrator was sought, the applicant invoked a special statutory jurisdiction which public policy required to be exercised with the utmost despatch.

Whether such power should be exercised in any particular case was, of course, a matter for the discretion of the court.

His Lordship considered the facts of the present case and held that it was one where the court to its discretion should strike out the tenant's entire proceedings in the High Court under the inherent jurisdiction.

Solicitors: S. J. Berwin & Co Treasury Solicitor.

Regina v Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council Housing Benefits Review Board, Ex parte Simpson  
Before Mr Justice Sedley  
[Judgment December 3]

An arrangement whereby persons, who would in any event be eligible for housing benefit, were provided with accommodation by a parent or relation who was not eligible for housing benefit, was not of itself an arrangement designed to take advantage of the housing benefit scheme thereby disqualifying the applicants.

Mr Justice Sedley so held in the Queen's Bench Division when granting the applicant, Charles Simpson, (a) a writ of *certiorari* quashing the decision of the respondents, Solihull MBC Housing Benefits Review Board, on September 14, 1992 to refuse his appeal against the council's refusal to pay housing benefit and (b) *mandamus* requiring a freshly constituted board to consider the application.

Mr Ian Wise for Mr Simpson; Mr James Findlay for the review board.

MR JUSTICE SEDLEY said that the applicant was an unemployed builder whose woman friend, Miss Bezzley, had two children one of whom suffered from cerebral palsy and was quadriplegic. Difficulties with

their council accommodation led them to seek rehousing from the local authority. Housing associations and others all without success. In September 1991, Miss Bezzley's father suggested he buy a house suitably sited for the children's schools and hospital and rent it to them.

On enquiry, the local authority advised that it could not accept a house which was not of itself an arrangement designed to take advantage of the housing benefit scheme thereby disqualifying the applicants.

On October 28, 1991 they signed a short-term tenancy with the father. Their application for housing benefit was refused and the borough council's decision returned.

The decision of the appeal to the benefit review board was now challenged.

Regulation 7 of the Housing Benefits (General) Regulations (SI 1987 No 1970) provided: "The following persons shall be treated as if they were not eligible to make payments in respect of a dwelling — (a) a person whose liability to make payments in respect of the dwelling appears to the appropriate authority to have been incurred to take advantage of the benefits of the system."

While his Lordship's grant of relief on the first ground, that the board had failed properly to reach or record its deliberations and decision in accordance with regulation 8(4), would dispose of the case, he was asked to consider the application on the ground that the

conclusion was perverse in relation to the applicability of regulation 7(b). It was important that a decision reached by the board was made on a correct basis of law.

It was accepted that on the material before it the board might reasonably have come to a decision in favour of or against the applicant. It was, furthermore, common ground that regulation 7(b) related to the primary or dominant purpose of the rental covenant.

To attract housing benefit could never realistically be the sole purpose of a tenancy; but equally, and importantly, anyone eligible for housing benefit must, by definition, have entered into an agreement to pay a rent which could not afford so that the mere fact of having done so could not of itself, save perhaps in extreme cases of which this was not one, be evidence of a purpose falling within regulation 7(b). For a good example see *Manchester City Council, Ex parte Baragrove Properties* (1991) 23 HLR 337, 341-3.

It was evident from regulation 7(a), (b) and (c) that the board sought to shut out certain arrangements which, in the Secretary of State's view, would amount to an abuse of the system.

Regulation 7(a) thus shut out as an abuse of the system certain fairly arrangements between a lessor and lessee living under the same roof, but not arrangements between relatives who lived in

different dwellings, as here. Regulation 7(b) shut out arrangements appearing to the authority to take advantage of the benefits scheme. For example, a person who was a sitting tenant upon whom a rent increase designed to take advantage of the scheme had been imposed.

Regulation 7(c) provided that non-dependent joint occupiers were presumed to be an abuse unless the claimant could show that that was not its purpose. There could not be a clearer indication that in paragraph (b) there was no similar adverse presumption against a claimant. It followed that before an appropriate authority could conclude that the claimant's liability for rent had been incurred to take advantage of the benefits scheme, there had to be before it evidential material which was capable of persuading it, and did persuade it, that that was the case.

It was incumbent on the board to explain the material on which the decision was based and why it had drawn the adverse rather than a more benign inference.

Here there was a straightforward case of capitalising on the arrangements. It was what any parent in a position to do it would have done.

Solicitors: Tyndallwoods & Millchurch, West Bromwich; Sharpe Pritchard for Mr John Scamilton, Solihull.

### Compensation for participant in fight

Regina v Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, Ex parte Gambiales  
Before Mr Justice Sedley  
[Judgment December 3]

Where a victim of a criminal injury had been willing to participate in a fight which provided a disproportionate response, the full range of levels of compensation which could be awarded by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board remained open until the board had reached a conclusion as to why the willingness to fight should result in a diminished or nil award.

It was for the board to establish a rational and proportionate nexus between the conduct, and in some cases character, of the applicant before, during and after the events in question.

Mr Justice Sedley, sitting in the Queen's Bench Division, so held when granting the applicant, Andrew Wayne Gambiales, judicial review of the decision of the respondents, the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, to refuse any award.

Mr Richard Drabble for Mr Gambiales; Mr Michael Kant for the board.

stashed his face with a broken glass causing serious injury. The board found that the applicant had provoked and had been willing to participate in the fight.

Paragraph 6 of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board Scheme 1979 (Cmd 6964) provided the board may withhold or reduce compensation if they consider that — (a) having regard to the conduct of the applicant before, during or after the events giving rise to the claim, or to his character and way of life, — it is inappropriate that a full award, or any award at all, be granted.

Paragraph 30 of the *Guide to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme*, issued by the board in February 1990 provides: "Fighting Compensation will not usually be awarded — (a) if the injury occurred in a fight to which the victim voluntarily agreed to take part. This is so even if the consequences of such an agreement go far beyond what the victim expects. A victim who invites someone 'outside' for what he intends should be a fist fight will not usually be compensated if he ends up with the most serious injury. The fact that the offender goes further and uses a weapon will only make a difference in exceptional circumstances."

Mr Drabble submitted that the board erroneously treated the find-

ing that the applicant was willing to engage in violence as having the automatic consequence that no award should be made. The basis of that was the final sentence of the board's reasons: "We considered the appropriateness of a reduced award but as we found that he had evinced a willingness to engage in violence which culminated in the assault upon him, we disallowed his application completely under paragraph 6(c)."

That determination was flawed because it omitted the essential matter to which the board's reasoning had to be directed under the scheme that is, why the applicant's willingness to fight should result in a nil award rather than a reduced award to fit his moral blameworthiness.

Both counsel agreed that it was the conduct of the applicant before and during the events giving rise to the claim and not any of the other elements of paragraph 6(c) which came into play. The facts found by the board were capable of sustaining effectively the whole spectrum of possible decisions from all to a full award, although the latter might well be very unlikely. All the possible levels of award lay within the range of decision compatible with the finding that the applicant was ready to fight in the material circumstances.

However, accepting the sub-

mission that it was more nearly a moral judgment than a causative link that was postulated by paragraph 6, it was still for the board to establish a rational and proportionate nexus between the conduct and in some cases character too, of the applicant before and during, and in other cases after, the events, before those could reduce or extinguish the award to which he would otherwise be entitled.

The board in such cases must therefore proceed in three stages: (a) Did the applicant's conduct make a full award inappropriate? (b) If so, to what extent did the applicant's conduct impact on the appropriateness of an award? (c) What award if any should the applicant consequently receive?

His Lordship accepted Mr Drabble's submission that the board's reasoning went from (a) to (c), omitting (b) entirely. In that situation, and even though the reasons had been volunteered at the court's invitation rather than having been required by law, it was not right for the court to supply the want by assuming the existence of the very thing that reasons were there to demonstrate, namely that the conclusion had been reached by the appropriate process of reasoning from the facts.

Solicitors: Arthur Smith & Broadie-Griffin, Wigston; Treasury Solicitor.

### Failure to assess use of land justifies quashing decision

Christchurch Borough Council v Secretary of State for the Environment  
Before Lord Justice Ralph Gibson, Lord Justice Evans and Sir John Megaw  
[Judgment December 16]

A failure by a planning inspector to address the question whether the existing informal use of land would be likely to continue if permission for residential development was refused, and a failure by him to give reasons for his implied conclusion that the benefits of granting permission outweighed the benefits of that existing use, justified the quashing of his decision.

The Court of Appeal so held when allowing the appeal of Christchurch Borough Council against the refusal by Sir Graham Eyre, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge on March 17, 1992, of the application by the council to

quash the decision by an inspector appointed by the Secretary of State for the Environment to allow on March 25, 1991 an appeal by Barratt (Southampton) Ltd and granting them planning permission, on an application dated March 20, 1989, for the erection of 30 houses on land formerly part of the playing fields of Buron Primary School, Christchurch, Dorset.

Mr Timothy Straker for the council; Mr Henry Setright for Barratt; Mr Christopher Katkowski for the Secretary of State.

LORD JUSTICE EVANS said that the inspector was not bound to apply the competing use test formulated by Lord Bridge of Harwich in *Westminster County Council v British Waterways Board* (1985) AC 676, 683F [that the balance of probability that by refusing use B the disputed land

would effectively be put to use A] as a matter of law. The inspector's task was to take account of all material considerations and to give due weight to the pressure in favour of allowing applications for development, if it arose in the case which he had to consider.

The inspector then had to decide whether the relevant objections outweighed the presumption, if it did arise, together with other material considerations in favour of the proposed development.

The inspector did not deal with the distinction between a potential use as public open space and the existing situation where the land was open space and informal recreational use was tolerated.

Lord Justice Ralph Gibson and Sir John Megaw delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Sharpe Pritchard for Mr J. D. Saunders, Christchurch; John Cawthorn, Cambridge; Treasury Solicitor.

### Serious company default

In re Pamstock Ltd  
In the context of the failure by the secretary of a company, also one of its two directors, to put in place an adequate system of management and his allowing the company to continue to trade beyond the point at which trading should have ceased, the failure to file accounts and returns promptly was also a serious default.

Mr Justice Vinelott so held in the Chancery Division on November

24, when disqualifying a former director of Pamstock Ltd for two years.

HIS LORDSHIP said that since the decision of the Court of Appeal in *In re Smeaton, Gales Stationery (Retail) Ltd* ([1990] BCC 765) it seemed to have become the practice of the Official Receiver to include in his report every matter which could be the possible subject of a complaint.

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## NEWS

## Yeo battles to save his career

■ Tim Yeo's future was on a knife edge last night as he admitted that he had behaved very foolishly over his affair with a Conservative councillor but insisted that he had no intention of being driven from office.

The Environment Minister staged a defiant attempt to save his career as party chiefs in his Suffolk constituency met to consider the disclosure that he was the father of an illegitimate daughter. Mr Yeo and his wife, Diane, were at the meeting of eight or nine senior local officers. Pages 1, 2, 12

## IRA put under immense pressure

■ IRA leaders came under formidable pressure to abandon their violence when John Hume called on the Provisionals to lay down their guns in one of the century's "greatest acts of moral courage". Page 1

## Sudan impasse

Britain gave the Sudanese ambassador 14 days to leave after Khartoum declined to reconsider its expulsion of Britain's envoy. Pages 1, 7, 12

## Discipline drive

A drive to tighten discipline in state schools by detailing the punishments available to teachers and governors was launched by John Patten. Pages 1, 5, 12, 13

## Habgood objections

The use of donors to provide sperm or eggs for infertile couples is immoral, the Archbishop of York says. Pages 1, 12, 13

## Wet and dry

Torrential rains lashing southern England produced flood alerts — and a warning that Kent might be facing drought. Page 1

## Degree happier

The first clear signs of recovery in the graduate jobs market have been reported. Page 2

## A life alone

The neurotic measures Greta Garbo took in defending her solitude have been revealed. Page 7

## Terrorism trial

A police officer was shot three times when he inadvertently stopped IRA terrorists at Warrington, a jury was told. Page 3

## Windsor in the rain

More than 1,000 hardy souls braved foul weather and an £8 charge to visit Windsor Castle, queuing to pay at the gate for the first time. Page 3

## Father must pay, despite promise

■ Edward Straub, of Indianapolis, who agreed to inseminate one of his colleagues, has been ordered to pay \$100,000 in child support payments, despite a written promise from Francine Todd, his fellow school teacher with whom he had a relationship five years ago, that she would never seek money from him after the birth of the child. Page 7

## Walesa warning

President Walesa intensified the pressure on President Clinton to admit Eastern European countries to Nato. Page 8

## Mass jailbreak

As the death toll in Venezuela's prison riot reached 103, inmates at a second jail mounted a mass breakout. Page 9

## Children killed

Two children on an at-risk register were heard screaming for mercy before their mentally ill mother killed them, the Old Bailey was told. Page 5

## Bulldozed booze

Confronted by oceans of contraband alcohol and mountains of confiscated cigarettes, Customs officers are bulldozing the booty with household refuse. Page 6

## Motorway misery

The M25 may be used as a testbed for the Government's plans to make Britain's motorways pay for using the motorways. Page 5

## Terminal farming

Farmers will be looking to satellites and computer science rather than the hand of God in their bid to boost yields. Page 6

## Anxiety rules OK

Anxious women are more likely to succeed in the male-dominated business world than their more outgoing peers. Page 5

## Commuter challenge

The Government is to challenge the British worker's obsession with commuting. Page 6



Douglas Hurd shaking hands with Hanan Ashrawi, the Palestinian leader, at a Jerusalem meeting yesterday. Report, page 7

## BUSINESS

**Post Office:** The Post Office intends to propose to national newspaper publishers that it should take over Sunday newspaper delivery if it is given the commercial freedom it is seeking. Page 19

**Disney:** The profits plunge at Walt Disney caused by huge losses at its crisis-hit European theme park has cut the pay of Michael Eisner, the American-based chairman, by 90 per cent and erased his bonus for the first time in a decade. Page 19

**Markets:** The FT-SE 100 Index fell 9.9 points to close at 3408.5. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 81.8 to 82.1 after a rise from \$1.4780 to \$1.4820 and from DM2.5688 to DM2.5784. Page 22

**Cricket:** England A suffered the first defeat of their South Africa tour when they were beaten by an innings and 57 runs by Natal in Durban. Page 36

**Rugby Union:** Grant Fox, who scored 645 points in 46 international matches for New Zealand, has confirmed he is retiring from the game. Page 34

**Boxing:** Lennox Lewis can expect to box for the unified world heavyweight championship this year. Evander Holyfield, the World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation champion, has announced that he will meet Lewis, the World Boxing Council champion, in November. Page 33

**Royal concern:** "In theory, the Monarch is a protection against 'elective dictatorship' and the sometimes bad behaviour of the political class," Simon Heffer on the Monarch's moral power. Page 10

**Middle ground:** "There is something distinctly Wodehousean about baronets. Perhaps it is the fact of their having style without substance (they are entirely powerless)," Walter Ellis on a title out of fashion. Page 11

**Drink sensation:** Talk about selling coals to Newcastle — the Americans plan to sell tea to the British. Alan Mitchell reports. Page 26

**Holocaust on screen:** In New York, newspaper articles have attacked Steven Spielberg's film, *Schindler's List*, about concentration camp victims, for turning the Holocaust into a money-spinner. Many Jewish religious leaders, however, are impressed by its serious tone. Page 27

**Drama de-skilled:** The BBC has de-skilled and casualised its own television drama department over the past decade, says Louis Marks, whose *Middlemarch* adaptation starts next week. Page 29

**Baroque parties:** The English Bach Festival may collapse if extra funds are not found for its Covent Garden staging on Sunday. Page 28

## Good behaviour

In most state schools disciplinary procedures have remained far too vague: a recipe for injustice as well as disorder. Page 13

## The peasants' revolt

The peasants' revolt in Chiapas, which has one of the worst human rights records in Mexico, is a symbol of the country's social dislocation. Page 13

## Eleven pipers piping

Bagpipers put a swagger back in the weariest step over the heather or high road, and a regiment marching through its home town with pipes playing and bayonets fixed is a spectacle to bring tears to the driest eye. Page 13

## GEORGE CAREY

Sudan is bleeding, and we in Britain — to whom the Sudanese south-easterners naturally look for support — must continue to care for our brothers and sisters there, so that 1994 can be a year of peace for all Sudan's people. Page 12

## SIMON JENKINS

The essence of a profession is personal discretion, judgment exercised free of state or other interference, based on a corpus of received wisdom. The Government, however, is removing all discretion. Page 12

The Archbishop of York lists the moral objections to "designer babies". Page 13

## THE TIMES TOMORROW

## Top Cs and top tips

■ Rodney Milnes offers a critical guide to the main operatic attractions of 1994: young singers to watch, directors to avoid, rarities that will be resuscitated and premieres worth catching

## Were Greeks colour-blind?

■ Nicholas Boyle reviews a history of colour in art, science and literature which demolishes some of the old myths

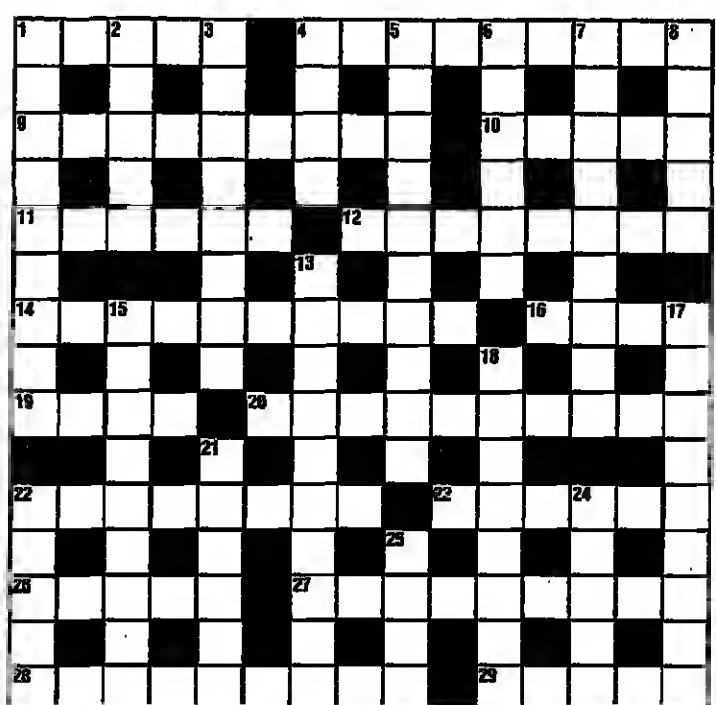
## Covering the risks of the piste

■ Taking out insurance for a skiing holiday? Tony Rocca reports that skiers in the French Alps may soon be forced to buy comprehensive insurance

Happily, Boris Yeltsin has more nerve than some of his Western counterparts. At the very moment when many Western governments and commentators were dwelling on the errors of reform and calling upon Russia to rethink "radical" liberalisation, Yeltsin instead pushed down on the accelerator. *The Wall Street Journal*

Too many Mexican citizens remain alienated from local governments that owe more to patronage than to a habitually tainted electoral process. If Mexico is to take its place among the democracies of North America, the gap between economics and politics urgently needs to be bridged. *The New York Times*

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,431



## ACROSS

- 1 Royal I spotted in island — here for the regatta? (5)
- 4 International imports taken first in check on income (5,4)
- 9 Do another job, needing a month to settle (9)
- 10 People who make connections for banks (5)
- 11 Heated discord's ending in a rift (6)
- 12 About a second to harden? That's not very fast (8)
- 14 Quiet lanes put in order — particularly so (10)
- 16 After conflict, spy chief's close to finding hidden secret (4)
- 19 Celebrated characters preceding those in tube (4)
- 20 Bishop, say, associated with one cathedral city or another (10)
- 22 Toast is part of speech in Chinese (4-4)

## DOWN

- 23 Sorted letters out for one part of the country (6)
- 26 Material backing for poet or novelist (5)
- 27 A restriction put on half-heartedly is discontinued (9)
- 28 It requires minds more open to change (9)
- 29 King on bank observed boatman (5)
- 1 Grasps an instrument for drawing (9)
- 2 Courted sweetheart in a club (5)
- 3 Specimen box daughter found in New Orleans (8)
- 4 Mother fighting American priests (4)
- 5 Those present some time before midnight take the floor (10)
- 6 This is easy chair's occupant (6)
- 7 Old piece included by surviving performer (9)
- 8 Experience discrimination (5)
- 13 Instrumental expert keeps singer right in melody, mostly (10)
- 15 Having competence that's somewhat limited (9)
- 17 The Queen Mother has a line to the House (4,5)
- 18 Judge is not the sort that relies on memory (8)
- 21 Escort organized for overseas flier (6)
- 22 Start off crossword, the paper's best part (5)
- 24 Source of strength one found in competing partnerships (5)
- 25 Assured learner placed in academic stream (4)

## Solution to Puzzle No 19,430

HANDCUFFS BIPED  
SYRINGA ONESTES  
PIECE HOLYBOAT  
I T E I  
POULICHS STUR  
E K I K N R E E  
SARK METEORIC  
A E B W S  
PRIESTS EMBER  
N T S C A A R  
EPITHE ARRANGE  
S A E O S C T N  
SONAR WILCHHUNT

Times Two Crossword, page 36

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Wiltshire & CW	706	Wiltshire & CW	706
Wiltshire & CW	707	Wiltshire & CW	707
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Wiltshire & CW	726	Wiltshire & CW	726
Wiltshire & CW	727	Wiltshire & CW	727

## A ROADWATCH

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London & SE	731	London & SE	731
London & SE	732	London & SE	732
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London & SE	748	London & SE	748
London & SE	749	London & SE	749
London & SE	750	London & SE	750

## HIGHEST &amp; LOWEST

Monday's highest day temp: Jersey, 12C (54F); lowest day temp: Calcutta, 4C (39F); highest night temp: Three, 10C (50F); lowest night temp: Tegernsee, 0C (32F)

## General: it will be windy in the Midlands, S England and S Wales and there will be gales at times. Rain over S England and S Wales will spread to N England, S Scotland and parts of Northern Ireland. N Scotland will be bright with showers. It will be cold.

■ S, SE and SW England: rain turning to showers, some heavy, with sleet or snow in places. Wind SW, strong to gale. Max 6C (43F).

■ Midlands, East Angles and S Wales: rain turning to sleet or snow, especially on hills. Wind S, light, becoming W to SW, strong to gale. Max 4C (39F).

■ Rest of England, N Wales, IOM: Brighter spells, then rain spreading N.

■ Central S Scotland and Northern Ireland: fog patches, then brighter spells. Rain spreading from later, turning to sleet or snow. Wind NE, light to fresh. Max 3C (37F).

■ West of mainland Scotland, western and northern Hebrides: brighter spells. Showers turning to sleet or snow. Wind NE, fresh to strong. Max 3C (37F).

■ Outbreak further rain or showers, brighter and drier on Friday.

■ S Wales: rain turning to sleet or snow, especially on hills. Wind S, light, becoming W to SW, strong to gale. Max 4C (39F).

■ Rest of England, N Wales, IOM: Brighter spells, then rain spreading N.

■ Central S Scotland and Northern Ireland: fog patches, then brighter spells. Rain spreading from later, turning to sleet or snow. Wind NE, light to fresh. Max 3C (37F).

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## SUNNY

Sunny intervals  
Cloudy  
Overcast  
Rain  
Sunny showers  
Sleet  
Lightning  
Hail  
Snow  
Temperature (Celsius)  
Wind speed & direction  
Sea conditions

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## MARKETING 26

Americans sell tea to the British, iced and flavoured



## ARTS 27-29

The man behind the BBC's Middlemarch



## SPORT 32-36

Grant Fox hangs up his boots

TELEVISION AND RADIO  
Page 35

# THE TIMES

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 5 1994

RM

## Post Office eyes Sunday paper round

By Philip Bassett  
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Post Office intends to propose to national newspaper publishers that it take over delivery of Britain's Sunday newspapers if it is given the commercial freedom it is seeking from the Government.

The fact that the Post Office is considering entering the Sunday newspaper delivery market is a clear sign of the new directions in which its senior managers feel that they could take the organisation if it were removed from what they see as the straitjacket of the current public spending system.

Members of the Post Office board, including Mike Heron, the chairman, and Bill Cockburn, the chief executive, have been examining proposals aimed at framing a bid for the delivery of Sunday newspapers.

Board members believe that the Post Office's current Sunday service could easily be extended to delivery of newspapers, which they envisage being delivered in a different way — probably shrink-wrapped, as in the US — and they are convinced that they could offer newspaper publishers competitive pricing and ensure early delivery to readers' homes.

Newspaper delivery would also mark a significant upgrade of the Post Office's business. Sunday collections were reintroduced in February 1990 after being abandoned in the mid-1970s because of trade union opposition.

Although no deliveries are made on Sundays — the last Sunday letter delivery in Britain having been made on June

**Delivering Sunday newspapers by the Post Office could make the delivery of mail on Sundays feasible again for the first time since the service was withdrawn in 1921**

12, 1921 — the collection service, which employs van drivers and depot sorters, has expanded in volume since being reintroduced, and now some 2.2 million items of mail are collected each Sunday.

In line with its plan to move into the Sunday newspaper delivery market if allowed to do so, the Post Office has concluded that the single most common use of Sunday mail is in replying to newspaper advertisements — an overlap that Post Office managers believe has further commercial possibilities.

At present, three-quarters of newspapers are delivered with the system often relying on teenagers to handle the final deliveries to houses. The Post Office would be likely to argue that delivery by Post Office van would be safer and, given the increasing bulk of individual Sunday papers, would assist handling. A quarter of newspaper readers who have stopped taking papers have done so because of the cost of the delivery service.

Such a move by the Post Office would mark a major shift in the newspaper industry's distribution system, unchanged since News International — publisher of *The Times* — led a shift from rail-based to road-based distribution in 1967 after the Wapping industrial dispute.

Last month, the Monopolies and Mergers Commission found that both newspaper publishers and distributors were operating complex mo-

nopolies, and talks are under way to try to resolve problems identified by the MMC.

Although the Post Office's plans for the Sunday newspaper market do not mean that it is likely to make any move back towards delivery of mail on Sundays, Post Office managers acknowledge privately that business success in delivering Sunday papers could only help to show that Sunday mail deliveries might at some point again be feasible.

Any move by the Post Office into such a market as newspaper delivery would only be possible if the Government agrees to its request to be freed from the current public spending system, under which the profitable Post Office is a significant net contributor to Government revenues.

Although Department of Trade and Industry ministers are sympathetic to such claims, the Treasury is believed to be unhappy about such a step, in spite of Post Office managers quoting precedents in other organisations in Britain and in foreign postal systems.

The Post Office is pressing the Government to publish the conclusions of the DTI's long-delayed review into the future of the Post Office. The review, now more than a year late, is understood to have rejected all-out privatisation because ministers doubt whether such a move would command Parliamentary approval.

Prince's stamps, page 3



Richard Stevens, finance director, left, with an Ellesse model and David Bernstein, Pentland's joint managing director

## Coopers declared blameless

By Angela Mackay

THE Institute of Chartered Accountants has given Coopers & Lybrand a clean bill of health after conducting an enquiry into the firm's procedures and audit controls as a result of the collapse of the Maxwell group of companies.

As auditors of Maxwell companies and pension schemes, Coopers & Lybrand has been widely criticised for not detecting problems within the group well before its collapse in November 1991.

The enquiry concluded that no regulatory action was needed in relation to Coopers & Lybrand's internal systems. The enquiry did not involve an examination of any of the firm's audits of the Maxwell group of companies.

Brandon Gough, chairman of Coopers & Lybrand, said:

"Our audits of the Maxwell companies and pension schemes were conducted under the regime of the high standards of quality and professionalism that we set for ourselves. It is reassuring that the institute has now endorsed our standards."

However, Coopers & Lybrand may still face a legal challenge by the administrators of various parts of the Maxwell group.

In a separate development, the trustees of the defunct Mirror Group Pension Scheme received a £25 million payment from Bank of America in an out-of-court agreement. The claim related to the bank's role as custodian of certain assets belonging to the Mirror scheme. The payment is the biggest sum recovered

by Maxwell pension schemes since the £59 million reaped last year from the sale of Teva shares, relinquished by National Westminster Bank.

Claims for £38 million had been against both Bank of America and Credit Suisse, which had received pension assets from Bank of America as security for loans to the Robert Maxwell Group. Bank of America is making the payment without admitting any legal responsibility, and the trustees have announced that they will continue an action against Credit Suisse.

Colin Cornwall, chairman of the Mirror trustees, said that an action claiming £200 million against Investco, Capel Cure Myers and Lehman Brothers was due to start in the High Court on January 25.

## Game, set and catch at Pentland

PENTLAND, the cash-rich sporting and consumer goods company, has made a flying start to 1994 by expanding in Europe with the acquisition of 90 per cent of Ellesse, the Italian sports goods maker (Philip Pangalos writes). The deal is worth up to £23 million.

The remaining 10 per cent stays with Dr Leonardo Scervadio, the founder of Ellesse, which is best known for making ski and tennis clothing and footwear as well as selling sporting clothing under its own Ellesse brand name. It made profits before interest and tax of about £1.8 million in 1992. Pentland shares firmed 2p to 104p.

Tempus, page 23

BUSINESS EDITOR  
Robert Ballantyne

BUSINESS TODAY

NOT ALL OVER



Four of the eight pits shut by British Coal at the end of last year have attracted interest from private coal mining groups  
Page 20

OVER WHAT?

Stage Two of European Monetary Union began on New Year's Day but nobody has any idea quite what it is  
Page 23

OVER THERE



Williams Holdings, the British conglomerate, has become the second largest commercial lock maker in America  
Page 22, Tempus 23

## Eisner's \$7m dwarfed by 90%

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK



No bonus, but Michael Eisner can still afford to smile

THE fall in profits at Walt Disney, caused by huge losses at Euro Disney, near Paris, has cut the pay of Michael Eisner, the chairman and chief executive, by 90 per cent and erased his bonus for the first time in 10 years.

But he may yet emerge as America's highest-paid executive, having cashed in share options worth almost \$200 million in December 1992. The profit from that is put at \$127 million, and will be counted as part of his 1993 pay.

Mr Eisner's option proceeds were not counted in the 1992 American pay league because they were cashed in November, after Disney's 1992 financial year-end in September.

For 1993, Mr Eisner was paid a salary of \$750,000 and a \$9,600 insurance benefit (before share options are taken into account). In 1992, his salary and bonuses totalled more than \$7 million.

Losses at Euro Disney plunged Walt Disney into the red during July, August and September and caused profits for the year to fall by 63 per

cent, to \$299.77 million. As a result, Mr Eisner was awarded no bonus for the first time since he took the helm at the company ten years ago. He has described the Euro Disney project as a big financial mistake and has threatened that Walt Disney, which owns 49 per cent of the European theme park, could pull out of the debt restructuring plan.

Meanwhile, accusations that Walt Disney has failed to co-operate with KPMG Peat Marwick, the accountancy firm conducting an audit of Euro Disney, have been denied.

French news reports suggested that Price Waterhouse, Walt Disney's accountants, had declined to provide certain information requested by KPMG. It was also claimed that Banque Nationale de Paris and Banque Indosuez, leaders of the creditor banks' co-ordinating committee, had written to Walt Disney protesting about the company's failure to co-operate.

A spokesman said last night: "We're co-operating fully. I am not aware of any letter being sent to us."

## MCI puts \$20bn in 'highway'

FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT

MCI Communications, the American partner of BT, unveiled a plan for \$20 billion of investment over the next six years to create the first trans-american electronic "super-highway" using fibre optics.

As a first step, MCI, America's second-largest long distance telephone company, will provide the first high-speed electronic superhighway across America by the end of this year, and extend it across the Atlantic and Pacific by the end of next. The division will be called NetworkMCI.

The move is part of the revolution of delivering voice, business information and entertainment into the home and office down one wire.

MCI is also extending its attack on the American regional telephone companies with a \$2 billion investment on switching systems that will enable it to avoid paying fees for the use of local systems, so adding \$5.5 billion to MCI's \$12 billion annual revenue.

STOCK MARKET		THE POUND		GOLD	
FT-SE 100 3408.5 -9.9	DOW JONES 3765.61 +9.01	Dm 2.5784 +0.0096	US \$ 1.4820 +0.0040	£393.85 per oz	BRENT CRUDE \$13.60 per barrel (Feb)
MIDDAY TRADING FIGURES		MARKETS IN DETAIL PAGE 22, SHARE PRICES PAGE 24			

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# Playing politics while EMU flies on a wing and a prayer

The fate of European monetary union is as uncertain as the political futures of its architects, Kohl and Mitterrand, writes Janet Bush

Stage Two of the path towards European Monetary Union enshrined in the Maastricht Treaty officially began at midnight on Friday. But when champagne glasses were raised to the new year and a new era all over continental Europe followed, rather symbolically, an hour later by Britain nobody had any idea what exactly they were toasting.

Stage Two was conceptually vague, even before the convulsions in the exchange-rate mechanism threw European policy into disarray. According to the Maastricht Treaty, now less a monument to European unity than an embarrassing white elephant, Stage Two was the period in which currencies would fluctuate ever more narrowly around unmovable central parities, economies would converge on the various criteria of economic performance set out in the Treaty and limits on budget deficits would be met.

A prototype for the new European Central Bank would prepare to emerge from its chrysalis, a butterfly on the glorious first day of Stage Three in 1997 or 1999 — a big bang that would create EMU and a single currency (probably without Britain, which has an opt-out). But, despite the fact that Maastricht was reluctantly endorsed by those electorates allowed to vote on the issue and painfully ratified by all 12 members of the European Union, it is not certain that any of the treaty will happen in the way envisaged.

Since Europe's leaders abandoned narrow bands in the ERM on August 1 — under pressure from the powerful rational forces of currency markets, which held that high interest rates and even higher unemployment were mutually exclusive — only one new EMU building block has been put in place.

At midnight on Friday, the European Monetary Institute, the embryonic European Central Bank, was born. But, apart from its inevitable location in Frankfurt, nothing about this institution is clear. As David Currie and John Whitley, of the London Business School, put it: "This will be an institution in search of a role."

All the rest, including the 1997 or 1999 timetable, convergence criteria and currency arrangements, are up in the air. There is no sign of agreement, political or economic, about what Stage Two should constitute and whether Stage Three is alive or dead.

Of course, there are still the rhetorical diatribes of Brussels who continue to insist that the effective suspension of the ERM and destruction of all the credibility that had been invested in the system have changed nothing. André Louw, of the European Commission, told a pre-Christmas gathering of academic economists — belonging to the Money Macro and Finance Research Group under the auspices of the London Business School — that Maastricht had been passed and that discussion was finished.

He said the treaty did not allow the EMU calendar to be extended, convergence criteria to be loosened or a mini-EMU, so EC members to form a minority of EC members to form a mini-EMU. The wide 15 per cent fluctuation bands agreed on August 1 were both temporary and unsatisfactory and there should be an agreement before the end of 1994 to observe the "normal" fluctuation limits talked about in the treaty. Without narrow bands, he said, the single European market could not function. This is the party line but,



The political, rather than economic, views of François Mitterrand and Helmut Kohl will decide the EU's fate

behind closed doors all over Europe there is a realisation that the world has changed, even if Brussels apparitions have not. The immediate challenge is what to do with the ERM, and the debate is ideological, with free-floaters pitched against peggers and lobbyists for a single currency. On one side is a belief that the exchange rate is a key root of national economic policy and that a free, integrated European trading bloc can function without giving up this economic lever. On the other are those who believe that national government control over exchange rates will lead to beggar-thy-neighbour devaluations and make the single market unworkable.

The latter, represented by the European Commission, is determined to return to something like the old ERM as a precursor to the single currency. After the debacle of last autumn, there is at least much debate about how to strengthen the system, including a tax on foreign "large transactions" (opposed almost universally by European politicians) and a more collective use of central bank reserves to defend the system from the currency markets. These technical priorities will feature heavily in the debate in the months to come.

But there is a growing chorus of voices that believes that narrow bands are no longer workable and that the path to EMU does not lie in a semi-fixed currency system at all. This group includes both the London Business School and the National Institute of Economic and Social Research, both fans of Britain's membership of the old

ERM at the time. In a December paper, NIESR said that Britain's experience of ERM membership implied that "the ERM must either move a long way towards free floating or else change into a monetary union".

The LBS said in another paper that the events of the past year "may have forced the Maastricht process away from an over-reliance on a fragile exchange rate arrangement to a more stable and viable path towards EMU". It favours closer monetary co-operation, coordinated by the EMU and based on monetary, inflation and nominal income targets.

Europe should coordinate "outcomes" such as convergence on low and stable inflation, rather than policies themselves. Such questions — which revolve around alternative, less rigid and vulnerable focal points than the ERM to force European countries to converge into a homogeneous bunch ready for monetary union — will also form part of the mainstream debate in Europe. But all this may still be rearranging deckchairs on the Titanic.

Many leading economists believe that EMU is neither workable nor necessarily desirable. David Vines, of Balliol College, Oxford, and a research fellow of the Centre for Economic Policy Research, listed six reasons usually put forward in favour of EMU. He says EMU is a technical sideshow compared with the more important task of integrating eastern Europe into a wider economic bloc. Given this,

minimising the flexibility of fiscal and monetary policy under Maastricht would be "risk-loving in a spectacular way".

If a combination of German unification and European recession was enough to destroy more than a decade's worth of credibility in the ERM, just think what other shocks may be in store. Financial deregulation in continental Europe could wreak as much havoc with monetary control as it did in Britain in the 1980s.

Who knows how the Eastern bloc will develop, who could have foretold the electoral triumph in Russia of Vladimir Zhirinovskiy? And, nearer to the heart of Europe, what fate for the key architects of the European Union? Will Helmut Kohl survive German elections this year and François Mitterrand French presidential elections in 1997? The truth is that the dream of a united Europe has always had a great deal more to do with politics than economics, and this is what will finally decide the fate of the Maastricht Treaty and Stages Two and Three. The bottom line, as Professor Jacques Méitz, of INSEE in Paris argues, is that Germany sees monetary union, which it has no interest in, as a *quid pro quo* for political aims such as common defence and foreign policies.

As the Maastricht timetable for EMU comes closer, the treaty will simply be used by Germany as a lever to get the best deal on political union. As the politics between the old enemies and allies plays out, the fate of EMU is anybody's guess.

## TEMPUS

### Utility index

WERE the FT-SE 100 a Japanese market indicator it would have risen on its tenth anniversary, but British market-makers, not known for their sentimentality, sold on a combination of profit-taking and anxiety over US interest rates. The attention given to the performance of the FT-SE has increased almost at the same rate as the index itself and the worthiness of the FT-SE steering committee can feel some satisfaction that it has more than achieved its objective of establishing a benchmark for options and futures contracts.

Today's index constituents give a good rough-and-ready guide to UK plc and go some way to explaining the FT-SE's preoccupation with interest rates and its willingness to disregard lacklustre growth in corporate earnings. In 1984, the index contained a good smattering of industrial companies with UK

manufacturing bases but takeovers, collapses and corporate slimming have taken their toll.

Ten years on, privatisation has swamped the index with utilities: companies with little potential for high earnings growth, but offering the compensation of a safe dividend. British Gas and BAA were sold on the promise of monopolistic but regulated income, an advantage the latter still enjoys. Water and electricity stocks added ten new members to the FT-SE and headhunted for analysts seeking to differentiate the companies on grounds other than gross dividend yield.

The two hard-core manufacturers in the FT-SE top ten were there ten years ago, but both Hanson and BTR could make some claim to be US companies, which leaves the scene dominated by banks, oil companies, drugs, insurance and Marks & Spencer: plus ça change.

### Pentland Group

THE rationale for holding Pentland shares for most of last year was the hope that Stephen Rubin could pull off another deal like its investment in Reebok, the sale of which accounts for its cash holdings of £250 million. There are few other reasons why an investor should pay over £1 for shares which are expected to return less than 5p of earnings in 1993.

Pentland's latest deal provides some reassurance that the company can still find decent brands at sensible prices. Ellesse is mainly an upmarket Italian skiwear manufacturer earning just under £2 million per annum with a good brand image on the Continent but which has lost its momentum. In buying the assets, Pentland hopes it can brush up the distribution side of the Ital-

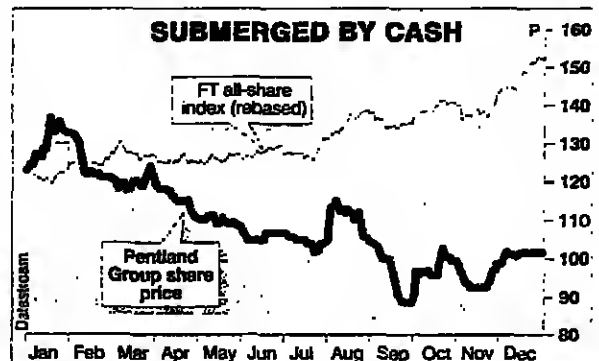
ian group while improving

Pentland's own presence on the Continent where it would like to sell more of its own brands which include Speedo and Berghaus. The deal also takes Pentland into high fashion sportswear from its current focus on hi-tech.

But Ellesse does not solve Pentland's main headache which is improving the re-

turn on capital, currently

depressed by its cash mountain. Good rather than expensive deals which employ a large chunk of the spare resources are unlikely to be found quickly, and in turning down Adidas, the company has shown it will wait rather than risk paying too much. Potential investors may take the same view of the shares.



### Property shares

PROPERTY shares had such a good ride in 1993 that it would be greedy to expect more outperformance in the current year. Leading shares have almost doubled over the twelve months thanks to the steady fall in the cost of money and a perception that discounts to net asset values had widened too far.

Today, the tables have been turned: premiums rather than discounts are the measure of performance and the sector as a whole is valued some 20 per cent higher than current estimates of its net worth. Falling gilt yields drove investors back into the direct property market at the same time as funds rebuilt their weightings in property shares. The rush to invest has driven yields down quickly from double digits to 7 per cent and a further fall in long gilt yields to below 6 per cent could send property shares to new peaks.

Evidence of the rise in values has yet to be seen in company balance sheets but corporate treasurers are still planning equity fundings

this year, tempted by the high

ratings of their shares. Disappointment from a leading company in the spring reporting season and dim prospects for rental growth could send the sector into reverse. Investors should be wary of further cash calls to fund property acquisitions. Smaller companies that can comfortably manage a high level of borrowings will prove to be a better bet in 1994.

### Williams

THE anti-conglomerate brigade had a field day when Williams announced its conversion to their cause last year, selling off a collection of engineering businesses on a lowly 12 pence earnings. Reassuring then, to see the reinvented building products, security and fire protection group paying a sensible price for a locks business which fits neatly into the declared strategy of seeking market leadership.

Corbin & Russwin has about 10 per cent of the market and combined with Williams' Yale operations should put the group in second position after Ingersoll Rand.

The deal gives William's further

exposure to the recovery in the building sector in the United States and if the business can make \$67 million of profit excluding one-off provisions, the deal should not dilute earnings.

### Guardian Group

GUARDIAN Group, the West Sussex building and environmental company, has the ignominy of being the first share of the New Year to be suspended.

The coded message suggests hiccups in Guardian's plan announced last October to raise fresh capital. Guardian was already nursing a pre-tax loss of £420,000 for the seven months ended June 30, 1992, and has continued to survive thanks to the support given by Guardian Foundations, its main shareholder, behind which is John Broad, chairman.

To add to investors' woes, it emerged yesterday that Raphael Zorn Hemsley, the company's broker, resigned "some months ago", leaving Guardian Group sponsors and brokerless.

## BUSINESS LETTERS

### Charity formality

From Mr Brian Whittingham  
Sir, Charities seek to contain administration costs in order to maximise income for beneficiaries. However, standard practice is to secure a witnessed covenant and banker's order first, and subsequently to seek the covenant's undertaking to satisfy the Inland Revenue. Why cannot the initial form be designed to satisfy tax requirements?

Also, for a deposited covenant (whereby a lump sum is given to the charity as a loan from which annual instalments are to be taken), the basic commitment requires the usual single signature of a witness; but the concomitant declaration that the loan is interest-free and will not be recalled in the event of the donor's death purports to require two witnesses. If this anomaly derives from some old statute, much inconvenience could be avoided by a change in the law, with probable advantage to the charities. Yours faithfully, BRIAN WHITTINGHAM, 8 Alford Close, Horsham, West Sussex.

### Slicing Ernie's cake

From Mr G.J. Bailey  
Sir, Raising the monthly prize to £1 million will not induce people to buy premium bonds. More smaller prizes, that one could reasonably expect to win, would attract investors who do not want to risk their capital.

Winning at long odds would be just as illusory as winning the pools and lead to as much frustration. Ernie is a safe, long-term gamble: the national lottery a short flutter. Yours faithfully, GERALD BAILEY, 102 Kingsway, Chandlers Ford, Hampshire.

### The other car's a...

LOYALTY is a strong theme of the new advertisements for Barclaycard's Profile points scheme, which now knocks £1,800 off a new Ford car if you spend a mere £36,000 within three years on the card. But Ian McAllister, Ford chairman, seemed a little less than full-hearted when asked to explain why there would not be a gold version of the Ford logoed Barclaycard, just launched: "We think gold card users will be driving BMWs instead of Fords," he confided. Recovering quickly as hacks registered astonishment: "But the wife might want a Fiesta."

JON ASHWORTH

### Famous feat

WHAT do the British ambassador to France, the French prime minister, and the president of France have in common? To a greater or lesser extent, they are all shod by Church and Company, the thoroughly British shoemaker, based in Northampton. President Mitterrand is reputed to warm his feet in a pair of

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Sport of kings for Ho Chi Minh

WE MAY have trouble getting the world's greatest steeplechase under way, but British expertise in the sport of kings is still keenly sought. International Racecourse Management (IRM), of Doncaster, has landed a job helping the communist government in Vietnam to re-establish racing in Ho Chi Minh City, the Saigon of old. The dream is to use a rundown racecourse, built by the French 60 years ago, as a base from which to rival Hong Kong as the racing capital of Southeast Asia. John Sanderson, IRM's chief executive, has just returned from Vietnam after delivering three thoroughbreds, donated by Prince Khalid Abdullah and Robert Sangster to help re-establish thoroughbred racing there. "There's no financial infrastructure at the moment," says Sanderson. "We've told the government that if you have horse racing you have betting, and it's better to organise a lot of betting and provide revenue for a criminal element. They've accepted that." Ambitious as the scheme is, the Vietnamese might pull it off.

### Forced feeding

FIRST-CLASS travellers of Air Canada will have to do without their pâté de foie gras, which the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals have succeeded in getting dropped from the carrier's in-flight menu. The Washington-based animal rights group, which has been supported in its fight against pâté by our own thespian, Sir John Gielgud, objected to the force-feeding process

by which the delicacy is made. Air passengers must now ask themselves if this is just the thin end of the wedge. What's going to disappear from your meal tray next time you fly? British Airways assured me that it is not letting ethical pressures dictate its fare, but it's "all good healthy stuff".

### Flying the haggis

SIR Colin Marshall, chairman of British Airways, played the amiable host yesterday as journalists turned up at Langan's Brasserie, in

Mayfair for BA's annual new year's party for the press. Dodging jokes about "airline food", Sir Colin managed to keep smiling when a Scottish piper, summoned to "pipe in the haggis", failed to appear. After an awkward squeals from the next room, the haggis was duly piped in — although the choice of repertoire caused some surprise. Oh! Susanna, Swanee River, and other well-known Scottish ditties. Robert Ayling, BA's youthful chief executive, later explained that the tradition of a press lunch had been inherited from British Caledonian, which was bought by BA for £237 million in 1987. It was, he added, "probably the only good thing to come out of the deal".

### Famous feat

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"It has not done much for mine"

## COMPANY DIRECTORS. TIME IS RUNNING OUT

Directors of private limited companies

normally have ten months from their financial year end to deliver their Annual Accounts to Companies House — and avoid a late filing penalty. (Public limited companies have only seven months). Just one day late and your company will be penalised. Delay too long, and the penalty is as much as £1000.

If your financial year ended on 31 March 1993 — you must deliver your Annual Accounts to us this month.

Remember, every Director is personally responsible for ensuring the company Accounts are delivered to us on time. Not just the Finance Director or your accountant. So don't wait until it's too late. Send us your Accounts while there's still time in hand.

For more information, call Companies House on Cardiff (0222) 380936.

PS. REMEMBER TO SEND US YOUR COMPANY'S ANNUAL RETURN TOO.

FINANCIAL YEAR END (PRIVATE LTD)	31 Mar. 1993	30 Apr. 1993
DEADLINE FOR FILING	31 Jan. 1994	28 Feb. 1994

COMPANIES HOUSE  
Crown Way, Cardiff CF4 3UZ.  
Companies House is an Executive Agency of the Department of Trade and Industry



ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began January 4. Dealings end January 14. \$Contango day January 17. Settlement day January 24. \$Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began January 4. Dealings end January 14. \$Contango day January 17. Settlement day January 24. \$Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

High/Low Company					Price					High/Low Company					Price					High/Low Company					Price				
130	43	BWPd	130	-1	-1	3.7	20.8	24	194	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
131	43	State Pac	131	...	...	...	...	25	195	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
132	43	Novartis	132	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
133	43	Novartis	133	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
134	43	Novartis	134	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
135	43	Novartis	135	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
136	43	Novartis	136	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
137	43	Novartis	137	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
138	43	Novartis	138	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
139	43	Novartis	139	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
140	43	Novartis	140	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
141	43	Novartis	141	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
142	43	Novartis	142	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
143	43	Novartis	143	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
144	43	Novartis	144	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
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146	43	Novartis	146	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
147	43	Novartis	147	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
148	43	Novartis	148	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
149	43	Novartis	149	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
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151	43	Novartis	151	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
152	43	Novartis	152	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
153	43	Novartis	153	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
154	43	Novartis	154	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
155	43	Novartis	155	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
156	43	Novartis	156	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
157	43	Novartis	157	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
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159	43	Novartis	159	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
160	43	Novartis	160	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
161	43	Novartis	161	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
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163	43	Novartis	163	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
164	43	Novartis	164	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
165	43	Novartis	165	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
166	43	Novartis	166	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
167	43	Novartis	167	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
168	43	Novartis	168	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
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171	43	Novartis	171	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
172	43	Novartis	172	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
173	43	Novartis	173	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
174	43	Novartis	174	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
175	43	Novartis	175	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
176	43	Novartis	176	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
177	43	Novartis	177	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
178	43	Novartis	178	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
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180	43	Novartis	180	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
181	43	Novartis	181	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
182	43	Novartis	182	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
183	43	Novartis	183	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426
184	43	Novartis	184	...	...	...	...	26	196	Dorland Brown	348	...	...	...	30	174	427	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426	426</

High	Low	Company	Price		Yld	Vol	B/E	High	Low	Company	Price		Yld	Vol	B/E
			7/1	7/2							7/1	7/2			
220	219	Eastman Chem	222	-1	5.1	1.8		47	47	4 Permatex	156	156	14	32	94.3
221	220	40-Cryst	221	0	4.3	1.8		48	48	40-Cryst	157	157	14	32	94.3
222	221	40-Sulf	222	0	4.3	1.8		49	49	40-Sulf	158	158	14	32	94.3
223	222	40-Sulf	223	0	4.3	1.8		50	50	40-Sulf	159	159	14	32	94.3
224	223	40-Sulf	224	0	4.3	1.8		51	51	40-Sulf	160	160	14	32	94.3
225	224	40-Sulf	225	0	4.3	1.8		52	52	40-Sulf	161	161	14	32	94.3
226	225	40-Sulf	226	0	4.3	1.8		53	53	40-Sulf	162	162	14	32	94.3
227	226	40-Sulf	227	0	4.3	1.8		54	54	40-Sulf	163	163	14	32	94.3
228	227	40-Sulf	228	0	4.3	1.8		55	55	40-Sulf	164	164	14	32	94.3
229	228	40-Sulf	229	0	4.3	1.8		56	56	40-Sulf	165	165	14	32	94.3
230	229	40-Sulf	230	0	4.3	1.8		57	57	40-Sulf	166	166	14	32	94.3
231	230	40-Sulf	231	0	4.3	1.8		58	58	40-Sulf	167	167	14	32	94.3
232	231	40-Sulf	232	0	4.3	1.8		59	59	40-Sulf	168	168	14	32	94.3
233	232	40-Sulf	233	0	4.3	1.8		60	60	40-Sulf	169	169	14	32	94.3
234	233	40-Sulf	234	0	4.3	1.8		61	61	40-Sulf	170	170	14	32	94.3
235	234	40-Sulf	235	0	4.3	1.8		62	62	40-Sulf	171	171	14	32	94.3
236	235	40-Sulf	236	0	4.3	1.8		63	63	40-Sulf	172	172	14	32	94.3
237	236	40-Sulf	237	0	4.3	1.8		64	64	40-Sulf	173	173	14	32	94.3
238	237	40-Sulf	238	0	4.3	1.8		65	65	40-Sulf	174	174	14	32	94.3
239	238	40-Sulf	239	0	4.3	1.8		66	66	40-Sulf	175	175	14	32	94.3
240	239	40-Sulf	240	0	4.3	1.8		67	67	40-Sulf	176	176	14	32	94.3
241	240	40-Sulf	241	0	4.3	1.8		68	68	40-Sulf	177	177	14	32	94.3
242	241	40-Sulf	242	0	4.3	1.8		69	69	40-Sulf	178	178	14	32	94.3
243	242	40-Sulf	243	0	4.3	1.8		70	70	40-Sulf	179	179	14	32	94.3
244	243	40-Sulf	244	0	4.3	1.8		71	71	40-Sulf	180	180	14	32	94.3
245	244	40-Sulf	245	0	4.3	1.8		72	72	40-Sulf	181	181	14	32	94.3
246	245	40-Sulf	246	0	4.3	1.8		73	73	40-Sulf	182	182	14	32	94.3
247	246	40-Sulf	247	0	4.3	1.8		74	74	40-Sulf	183	183	14	32	94.3
248	247	40-Sulf	248	0	4.3	1.8		75	75	40-Sulf	184	184	14	32	94.3



Tid	Ref	Off	+	Yid	Ref	Off	+	Yid
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4/2/50



# Anyone fancy an ice cuppa?

America's latest drink sensation is coming to Europe. But there are doubts about whether a drink that is hardly new here will impress the British, says Alan Mitchell

Talk about selling coals to Newcastle — the Americans plan to sell tea to the Brits. Being American, it will, of course, be new and improved — iced, in a resealable bottle, flavoured, perhaps by real lemon, peach or raspberry.

The driving force behind it, Snapple Beverage Corporation, has taken the US by storm. Set up in 1972 by brothers-in-law Hyman Golden and Leonard Marsh, two window-washing New Yorkers, and Arnold Greenberg, a health-food store proprietor, the company has become a marketing sensation.

Sales of Snapple iced tea, with its 59 flavours, from strawberry lemonade to Mango Madness and Peach, reached \$13 million (almost \$9 million) in 1993 and last year were \$232 million. In 1994, says Carl Gilman, a senior vice president, Snapple will go global.

A low-key British launch has started with some distribution within the London orbital motorway ring, and Mr Gilman is aiming for sales of a million cases by 1995.

The secret of Snapple's success? "People try it and they tell their friends," he says.

Clever marketing has helped. Phone Snapple at its Valley Stream headquarters, any time, day or night, and a 24-hour consumer hotline is ready to answer your questions about the product. "Fanatically loyal" consumers, Mr Gilman claims, send messages such as "I served Snapple instead of champagne at my wedding".

The TV advertising, says John Bond, of Kirshenbaum & Bond, the New York advertising agency that has been pushing Snapple in the US, is "very 1990s... unscripted". The cameras just turn up at the door of a hapless fan and ask them to talk about the product.

"It's authentic and low key," says Mr Bond. "The opposite of Coke and Pepsi. People seem to like that very much."

To overcome British consumer resistance to flavoured cold tea, extensive sampling programmes are under way. "Actual tastings will work a miracle," says Harry Drnee, chief executive of Maison Caurette, the drinks distributor that has set up a company called United Beverage Corporation to market Snapple in the UK. Mr Drnee, who introduced the cult lagers Sol and Miller Genuine Draft to Britain, promises "extensive" advertising that will feature out-of-the-ordinary advertising and publicity ideas.

Mr Drnee insists that iced tea is no fad, and the biggest food and beverage companies of the world agree. Unilever and PepsiCo two years ago formed a joint venture called the Tea Partnership to market ready-to-drink teas, and Nestlé and Coca-Cola followed with Nestea, a joint venture for the same purpose. These multinational giants are spending millions on marketing to try to overtake the minnow Snapple Beverage Corp.

Why? Because they believe that Snapple may have stumbled on the holy grail of soft-drinks marketing — a packaged and mass-distributed, healthy, refreshing beverage that appeals to adults. "There is a huge segment of the soft-drinks market between bottled water, which is good for you but boring, and traditional soft drinks that



taste good, but are not good for you," says Mr Bond. "This is all-natural and tastes really good."

For Coke and Pepsi the challenge is crucial as consumers begin to turn away from their mainstay products because they don't like the fizz and want healthy products.

These so-called new age soft drinks are perfectly positioned in another way, too: halfway between the "cheap and cheerful" carbonates in cans and what consumers consider expensive bottled waters.

Proof of the pudding: last year, Lipton, the Pepsi-Unilever brand, saw its iced-tea sales jump by 157 per cent in America. Nestea is up

by 171 per cent. That compares to total volume sales growth of just 1 per cent in the entire soft-drinks market. Roy Burry, an analyst at Kidder Peabody, the American brokers, confirms that new-age soft drinks such as ready-to-drink iced teas are winning much of the soft-drinks market.

Now a global David and Goliath battle is in the offing as two giant multinational consortiums rush to corner the market created by three New York entrepreneurs. Encouraged by rapidly growing ready-to-drink iced tea in southern Europe and Asia, Unilever, owner of the Lipton brand, hired JWT, the ad

agency, for its push into Europe.

But will it take off here? The UK market is hardly like America's, where tea is something of a novelty and where 80 per cent of tea brewed at home is served on the rocks. But the newfangled teas now being pushed by the most sophisticated marketers in the world are not competing with tea and coffee but with waters and cola drinks.

Mr Drnee claims that sales so far in the London test markets prove that the US success can be repeated. But, he admits, "the tea angle will take a little bit longer here than in the US".

## BBC scoops the festive figures

ITV bows to seasonal lack of demand for adverts and fails to put up a fight

ITV might just as well have showed a batch of repeats on Christmas Day. Its top rating programme for the day did not even attract an audience half the size of BBC1's sixth-most popular show.

The highest-rating programme on Christmas Day was BBC1's *Only Fools and Horses*, starring David Jason and Nicholas Lyndhurst, which was watched by 19.6 million people. *Birds of a Feather*, with Pauline Quirke and Linda Robson, came second with 19.4 million viewers, followed by the Whoopi Goldberg and Patrick Swayze film *Ghost*, which attracted 18.5 million.

The only ITV programme in the top ten was the film *Field of Dreams*, which starred Kevin Costner.

The results reflect the commercial decision by the ITV Network to go for high audiences only at the moments where

reversal of the trend throughout the year. Average weekly viewing for BBC1 was just under 13 hours, compared to ten and a half hours for ITV.

Alan Yentob's much sneered at slip of the tongue that "Christmas is a BBC institution" was not so very wide of the mark. The sedentary nature of Christmas Day in the television age is confirmed by the viewing figures. From 6pm to midnight at least 20 million people were watching television, peaking to more than 25 million at 7pm.

ALEXANDRA FREAN

licences, forcing them to become ruthlessly commercial.

The worry is that with such pitiful competition on Christmas Day, the BBC need not try so hard in future to produce original and imaginative schedules.

However, not all of what might be supposed to be the natural ITV audience automatically switched to BBC1. *Only Fools and Horses* was watched by 500,000 fewer people than last Christmas when it was also the most popular programme. The maximum audience for a television programme on British television shows no signs of breaking out of the 20-21.5 million range.

Although ITV did better earlier in the week, thanks largely to *Coronation Street*, BBC1 still managed to capture 42.2 per cent of the audience for the week ending December 26, against ITV's 34.3 — a near

reversal of the trend throughout the year. Average weekly viewing for BBC1 was just under 13 hours, compared to ten and a half hours for ITV.

ALEXANDRA FREAN

25 million watched TV on Christmas night

Only Fools and Horses (BBC1)	19.6
Birds of a Feather (BBC1)	19.4
Ghost (BBC1)	18.5
EastEnders (BBC1)	17.4
Back to the Future (BBC1)	13.7
Noel's Christmas Presents (BBC1)	12.7
Morecombe and Wise Christmas Show (BBC1)	10.4
Top of the Pops (BBC1)	7.9
Field of Dreams (ITV)	5.8
Dad's Army (BBC1)	5.6

Sources: Broadcasters Audience Research Board Ltd. Figures include viewing of broadcast material recorded at home and played back within seven days of recording.

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**OPERA page 28**  
Is this the end of the road for Lina Lalandi's flamboyant stagings of 18th-century rarities?

# ARTS

**TELEVISION page 29**  
BBC veteran producer Louis Marks hits out at the "de-skilling" of television drama



## Making box-office history

Matt Wolf reports from New York on mixed reactions to Steven Spielberg's cinematic treatment of the Holocaust, *Schindler's List*

The 1993 cinema year is over, and in America Steven Spielberg reigns supreme. So what else is new, one might ask, mindful of this director's talent for turning out record-grossing films?

But this past year has been different. As if it weren't enough for his *Jurassic Park* to establish itself as the all-time box office champion, Spielberg—at the age of 46—has done the seemingly impossible: releasing a film that brings together Hollywood and the Holocaust. *Schindler's List* must be the serious film of this or any year.

The initial reaction to last month's US release could not have been more positive. With President Clinton leading the hurrahs and virtually every American critic following suit, *Schindler's List* is now expected to pick up many of this year's Academy Awards, even if Spielberg himself is likely to lose the Best Director race to Jane Campion (*The Piano*).

Kudos aside, the film may even make money. Three hours and 16 minutes in length, *Schindler's List* is already out-grossing such heavyweight competition as Jonathan Demme's *Philadelphia* (the first Hollywood film about AIDS) and Oliver Stone's *Heaven and Earth* (about Vietnam). Budgeted at a moderate (by Hollywood standards) \$23 million, the film may ride its critical wave all the way to the magic \$100 million barrier. Which would prove that, with Spielberg's Midas touch, even a film about genocide pays.

But no American cultural event—this one included—avoids a backlash, and Spielberg's adaptation of Thomas Keneally's 1982 novel faces its main test now and in the weeks ahead. Amid the enthusiasm, dissenting voices are emerging—but so are the admiring ones of an informed Jewish public whose scepticism, to its surprise, has not been borne out by the finished film.

Far from hailing any Holocaust-themed work, the New York Jewish community can be famously difficult to please. The NBC-TV mini-series *Holocaust*, Costa-Gavras's film *Musée de l'Homme*, and Joshua Sobol's play *Ghetto* are just three works more harshly received in New York than elsewhere by a public unwilling to surrender the magnitude of the Holocaust to an aesthetic vision deemed either insufficient or demeaning.

Spielberg's greatest achievement, then, may be to win over precisely that audience resistant to a fictionalised telling of an atrocity which its genera-

tion still remembers. Avi Granot, counselor for church and ethnic affairs at the Israeli Embassy in Washington, DC, is the son and nephew of "Schindler Jews," the term given to the 1,100 or so Polish Jews saved from virtually inevitable death by the intervention of German industrialist and Nazi party member Oskar Schindler (played on screen by Liam Neeson). Having known Schindler during his visits to Israel in the late 1950s, Granot remembers thinking that the film "might be kitsch... that Spielberg, in order not to offend, would create some kind of saintly character."

Moreover, Granot, like many others, had maintained that the Holocaust could only be chronicled accurately in memoirs and documentaries, books by Elie Wiesel or Primo Levi, or in minority interest films from Claude Lanzmann (*Shoah*) or Marcel Ophüls (*The Sorrow and the Pity*). Now, he says, "the movie has changed quite a lot of concepts in me. I was immensely impressed by how accurate the

portrayal was, and the storytelling is very precise. To be able to copy an historical event into a form of perfect art is quite a challenge; the tendency is to change history to fit a certain artistic mould."

That, of course, is the crucial question: has the century's most gruesome event simply been fed into the maws of Spielbergian optimism? Is it riding on the same entertainment juggernaut that anaesthetised the turbulent passions of *Empire of the Sun* and *The Color Purple*, Spielberg's previous "serious" films?

Village Voice critic J. Hoberman, an early *Schindler's* pay-saver, compares Spielberg's presentation of the chosen Jews to "a transport of underprivileged waifs [on] a special trip to Disneyland." Former *New York Times* theatre critic Frank Rich launched his new editorial-page column on Sunday with a damning piece on the film whose hype, Rich wrote, "is already taking on a life of its own, wrapping the movie and the Holocaust in a neat, uplifting Hollywood ending."

To some observers, the Holocaust has become so emotive that critics are more reluctant than before to take issue with related films. "It's very hard to criticise this movie without coming out on the side of the Nazis in the emotional world of this particular issue," says Harvard University's James Russell, a professor of Armenian whose family is from the Polish



Schindler (Liam Neeson) confronts a guard who is trying to keep one of his worker's children at Auschwitz in a scene from Steven Spielberg's *Schindler's List*

city, Cracow, where most of *Schindler's List* takes place.

"And yet, I felt Polish Jewry deserves something better which brought out the complexity of their lives and the immensity of everything that was lost. I don't think Hollywood is capable of showing you Auschwitz, of conveying it. I don't know if anybody could, except maybe the Russians because they went through it."

In the end, the depiction of the Schindler Jews is the film's primary sticking point, dividing observers more than any one issue. Certainly, there is no doubt that the film's most indelible presence is SS officer Amon Goeth, commander of the slave labour camp at Plaszow, and played with revoltingly meretricious charisma by the former RSC actor Ralph Fiennes (*Wuthering Heights*). But Goeth and Schindler aside—and barring a sad-eyed Ben Kingsley as the Jewish accountant Itzhak Stern—the Jews are seen as an alternately doomed or saved mass, singled out, if at all, to meet a gruesome fate at the hands of Goeth.

To Russell, the Jews "were trivialised as a rather bland, rather gentle people." The *New York Post's* film critic, Thelma Adams, says Spielberg made them "bit players in their own tragedy." But are they Schindler's real subject? That query prompts what some see as Spielberg's principal achievement. "This is a film about perpetrators, not victims," argues Abraham Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith in New York and himself a Holocaust survivor.

Distinguishing *Schindler's List* from such Holocaust works as *The Diary of Anne Frank* and *Europa, Europa*, Foxman praises the "totality" of the movie's embrace of "the evil, the brutality, the bestiality of the Holocaust." He believes that "there have been a slew of films that zeroed in on the victims, but Spielberg looks at the Nazis in an uncaricatured way; that's the breakthrough."

For Rabbi James Rudin, inter-religious affairs director of the American Jewish Committee, America's oldest human rights organisation, the film follows last spring's opening of the Holocaust Museum in Washington DC as an essential reminder of the defining episode of this century, amid assertions elsewhere of ignorance and disbelief.

"Here," says Rudin, "is the most successful movie-maker who usually makes dinosaurs, ET, and the like, turning his brilliance to this subject at a time when many of the actual survivors are being called by God in a natural way. And because I live in a world where every day I'm dealing with Holocaust denial, I'm personally and professionally very moved by this film."

Adds Granot: "This is Schindler's story, not the whole story of the Holocaust. If people expected the movie to cover every day in the life of the ghetto it would last five years. I simply doubt that anyone can produce another Holocaust movie on this level. It not only replaces the standard we have now, but sets a whole new one."

● *Schindler's List* opens in Britain on February 18

**'With Spielberg's Midas touch, even a film about genocide pays'**

## New bugs get squashed

In a new grey school jumper that sits awkwardly on his tiny shoulders, eight-year-old George peers over the balustrade of his new prep school. Other boys are milling about, of course; but George, in his big specs, looks like a chap to whom childish milling will not come easily. In one quick secret movement, behind a pillar, he removes his specs, wipes his eyes on his sleeve, and puts the specs back on again.

Other, bigger boys suddenly converge on him, asking if there is anything wrong. "No," he pipes, warily, edging away. "What's happened?" they ask. "Nothing," he protests.

You don't often see an appeal on behalf of over-privileged children, but last night's 40 minutes about boys' prep schools, *The Making of Them* (BBC2) might almost, at such tear-jerking moments, have been leading to an address for donations. Poor George. While his parents are cheerfully footing the bill for his education now, all this dismal separation trauma will cost him dearly later on, and not just in money, either.

The *Making of Them* was a quiet, sympathetic film, but it certainly had an emotional axe to grind. Combined with the present-day stories of two new boys (George and Harry) were interviews with adult men, the walking wounded, all of whom recollected prep school

**TELEVISION:**  
**Lynne Truss**  
reviews a revealing documentary about life in prep schools

not as their "making" but as their undoing. For once, however, there was a fine excuse for this ostensible lack of editorial balance. Since the great British prep school is a story of successfully stifled screams, any boy or adult who claimed to be unaffected would have labelled himself thereby as a certain casualty.

Prep school is where boys learn to lie about their feelings, where they get into the white-water A-stream of lying which carries them directly towards politics. It's a well attested fact.

Evidently the present-day regime at St Custards is less awful than it used to be. Little boys are given a new-arrivals pep talk about how it's all right to blub. In some schools the boys are given phone-cards, but at others the practice is frowned on. The parents of Harry, interviewed during his first three weeks away,

said they thought it was better not to have phone contact. "If they can phone, they say 'Can I come home. I'm so unhappy. When am I going to see you again?'" explained Harry's mother, blithely. "But they're not unhappy at all, it's just the obvious thing to say."

Given the obvious potential for cliché, *The Making of Them* was a clever and subtle film. When Alexander (11) described his first arrival at school, he said that another boy had "taught me—I mean found me crying behind a locker". When Freddie (9) earnestly applauded the school for teaching him self-reliance ("you have to be able to manage by yourself"), he continued, bewilderingly, with a childish story about a birthday cake in which he was suddenly reduced again to nine years old. Alexander said that the only things to "hug" at school were the teddies, "but I don't need them much".

Remember *The Invasion of the Body Snatchers*? Remember when Kevin McCarthy yelled at us from the screen, "They are here among you! They look like ordinary people, but they are not!" Let's just say the effect of *The Making of Them* was similar.

**RADIO REVIEW: Literary adaptations, from Scott to Byron to Hammett**

## Drama behind Scottish lines

Walter Scott himself did not think much of the hero of his novel *Waverley*; he said that Edward Waverley, the sensitive young English officer who eventually joins the rebellious Jacobites, was "a sneaking piece of imbecility". So it is just as well that the new radio dramatisation by Roger Daines (Sundays, repeated Fridays, Radio 4) dwells more on the political passions and intrigues in Scotland in 1745 than on Edward's feelings. One of the Scotswomen says she does hope that "they won't be talking politics at dinner; even religion would be better, even law"—but in this case we may beg to differ.

Judging by the first instalment, it is going to be a strong production. The swirling voices in the dragoon barracks or in the Scottish baronial halls and glens give a strong sense of the two nations entangled with each other in mingled hatred and admiration. But the clear voices that emerge from the battle-lines outline sharply the battle-lines of emotion between the Scots and the English—which are soon going to turn into battle-lines of steel.

John Buick was particularly good as Baron Bradwardine,



Dangerous to know: Lord Byron, whose life flashed by in a vivid radio portrait compiled from brief quotations

the Scots friend of Edward's family, who generously brings out the Château Margaux 1713 for the young Englishman, but whose whole culture marks him out as no friend of the Hanoverians. Tom Smith, as the "imbecile" Davey who goes round Bradwardine's estate singing, gave an attractive

performance of some songs that had been specially arranged by the composer Iain Johnstone—even if one was as baffled as young Edward was by the words.

Scott's younger contemporary, Byron, also loomed up in a new series on Radio 4 on Sunday (repeated today): Dan-

gerous to know, an account of his life compiled by Michael and Melissa Bakewell. "Compiled" is the word, since this programme is made up of an extraordinary tapestry of brief quotations, so that in less than a minute you may hear Byron's mother, his friend Hobhouse, stray lines from *Childe Harold* and *Don Juan*, Byron's own voice, and Byron's inner voice. The tapestry is deftly and ingeniously woven, but the poet's life careers by at breakneck speed. He complained at one point that he had had the doctor's letter announcing his mother was ill only a day before he learnt that she was dead. The Bakewells allowed us only a split second between the two occurrences.

Over on Radio 5 on Saturday a very different serial was beginning—a dramatic version of Dashiell Hammett's Lower East Side thriller, *Secret Agent X-9*, which started life as a newspaper comic-strip in 1934. No attempt here to do a *Maltese Falcon* or a *Humphrey Bogart*; these tics and crooks all imitated Chico Marx imitating crooks and tics. The fun was fast and—obvious.

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## LONDON

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**SUSAN TOMES** The pioneering pianist opens the new year with the world premiere of Judith Weir's *The King of France*. Her chosen programme also includes Mozart's *Sonata in B flat* K570, Fauré's *Nocturnes* 1, 3 and 8 and Schubert's *Sonata in A D958*. Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141), Tonight, 7.30pm £5

**TRAVELLING OPERA** This imaginative company brings its English

## TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

language version of Mozart's *The Magic Flute* to London for three days only. Widely popular on its travels, it is well known for its innovative production of wit, style and energy. Barbican, 5th Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891), Today, tomorrow and Friday, 7.30pm £5

## ELSEWHERE

**LEATHERHEAD** A rainbow mix of music, song and action is on offer with Bill Kenwright's production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. Directed by Richard Baskin, it is a straight from the West End City of Angels, is the musical director. Theatrical Theatre, Church Street (0273 37677), This week daily, 2.30 and 7.30pm. Until Feb 12 £5

**STEVENAGE** Rousing good fun is just about guaranteed as Barbara Windsor and Paul Lister play forces in a production of the ever popular *Aladdin*. Garden Craig, Stevenage Leisure Centre, Lyton Way (0438 86868)

Today, 7.30pm, tomorrow, 2pm and 7.30pm, Fri 5pm and 8pm, Sat 2pm, 5pm and 8pm and Sun 2.30 and 6pm. Until Jan 26

**YORK** Frasier Hines as Buttons and Bonnie Moyle as Baron Hurdlop lead a strong cast through the many arduous of *Chatterbox*. Anne Charleston of *Neighbours* fame - and recently on tour with *The Comedy Club* - is the Fairy Godmother and Joanne Farrell appears in the 19th role. Opera House, Cumberland Street (0504 871818), Today and tomorrow, 2.30 and 7pm, Fri 7pm, Sat 11am, 2.30 and 7pm, Sun 2.30 and 7pm. Until Jan 16 £5

## LONDON GALLERIES

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## THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre openings in London

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**THE GREAT HIGHWAY** Jonathan Miller's play, a satirical look at the world of the theatre, is a comedy of manners. Theatrical Theatre, Church Street (0273 37677), Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. Until Jan 12 £5

**AN INSPECTOR CALLS** Stephen Dillit's play, a satirical look at the world of the theatre, is a comedy of manners. Theatrical Theatre, Church Street (0273 37677), Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. Until Jan 12 £5

**THE BFG** Roald Dahl's *The BFG* is a play about a giant who eats children. Theatrical Theatre, Church Street (0273 37677), Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. Until Jan 12 £5

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Founding chief: Lina Lalandi, wearing one of the specially commissioned crowns designed for *L'Orfeo* by the Greek jeweller Ilias Lalaounis

## Exit a Greek bearing gifts?

Whatever you need to stage Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo* can be found this week in a Belgrave drawing-room. Assorted spars lie on the floor. A lyre, fashioned like a tortoise-shell, sits ripe for the plucking. Fabulous crowns have been commissioned from the fashionable Greek jeweller Ilias Lalaounis. Costume designs are scattered on a harpsichord. None of your usual designer whimsy, either: these are exact replicas of the chitons and tunics worn in ancient Greece.

All of which must be a source of great comfort to the residents of this Belgrave mansion - Lina Lalandi, the Greek-born founder of the English Bach Festival, and her husband, the saintly former banker Ralph Emery - because Lalandi is about to commit one of her regular acts of inspired madness. She has hired the Royal Opera House, an orchestra of top period-instrument players, and 17 singers - and on Sunday she is putting on *L'Orfeo* in a production fastidiously designed to emphasise the ancient Greek origins of the myth.

She has been doing this sort of thing for 30 years: enriching our musical life, following her own instincts, exploring the great Rameau, Handel and Gluck masterpieces that the big opera companies cannot reach. "We are unique in England, in staging these big Baroque operas with full attention to period detail," she claims with justice. "And it's been proven that they come to life. Our reviews are outstanding - from the enlightened critics anyway. Of course there are some clots."

She admits, however, that this Sunday's outing to Covent Garden may be an extravaganza too far. Her festival's finances - always delicately poised - are now, she says, in "very great crisis". More of that sad matter later. First, a reminder of her glittering, if improbable, career.

## This Sunday's Monteverdi extravaganza at Covent Garden has plunged the English Bach Festival into crisis. Richard Morrison reports

The map of British music has largely been drawn by Great Eccentrics: men and women who had the vision and obstinacy to attempt enterprises that a committee of bureaucrats would have deemed utterly bonkers. Christie's *City of Dreadful Night* London orchestra, Baylis's Sadler's Wells Opera, Hallé's Halle: these all started as magnificent follies. But none was a more surprising creation than the EBF.

Lalandi, the daughter of a Greek museum director, had come to London as a tempestuous harpsichordist in the mid-Fifties. "She began the EBF in Oxford in 1963, mixing her passion for Baroque music with exotic premises. Her powers of persuasion, customarily expressed in a torrent of fractured English, were formidable. Albert Schweitzer was the EBF's first president, but he succeeded by Stravinsky, then Bernstein."

Oxford, unfortunately, was wary of this Greek bearing gifts. When Messiah played his own music at the Oxford Playhouse, just 227 was taken at the box office. Other promoters would have shrunk their ambitions accordingly. Lalandi expanded - to London. Her festivals of the late Seventies became great eclectic events. Lalandi became almost as significant a force in British musical life as the director of the Proms; and many of those she nurtured are now themselves

running British music. Nicholas Kenyon, the controller of Radio 3, was one of her tea-boys in the Seventies. But Lalandi is a pioneer, not a consolidator. In the late Seventies the EBF ceased being a festival in the normal sense and concentrated on mounting occasional, spectacular productions of neglected Baroque operas. That enabled her to offer an alternative to the prevailing trend towards "concept opera" productions - or, as she calls it, "a subject upon which she can hold forth for many minutes without drawing breath. In EBF productions, by contrast, dance steps and gestures are faithfully transcribed from 18th-century treatises; costumes designed to the very stitch to replicate museum originals; scenery painted *à la* Watteau or a similarly apt source. *L'Orfeo*'s scenery is based on an ancient Greek vase decoration."

"I won't do things cheaply," says Lalandi. "Our costumes are made to be seen close-up. They use the materials that would have been used in the original period." Which brings us to the present crisis. Despite the hefty ticket prices being charged on Sunday (£73 for a good stall seat, and long-standing sponsorship from the A.C. Leventis Foundation, *L'Orfeo* could be the EBF's final curtain.

"We are desperate for sponsors, donations, to see us through"

The reason, according to Lalandi, is that the Arts Council only gives the EBF what she describes as a "pittance" (actually £13,360 last year). Consequently the festival survives on the profits of lucrative engagements abroad. But these have suddenly become too scarce for comfort.

"We did 16 years of performances in Versailles, until they thought they could imitate us and put on Baroque opera for themselves." This Gallic impertinence greatly annoys Lalandi. "They did one festival by themselves and now it has broken down."

It is not the French, however, but the Spanish who have precipitated the present crisis. "We were going to do performances of *L'Orfeo* in Spain in February. These performances have been, if not cancelled, postponed to April, and this has left *L'Orfeo* destitute. We have no cash flow. We are desperate for sponsors, donations, to see us through Sunday's performance. I don't think we can cancel now."

What of the saintly Ralph, whom Lalandi describes as the "main sponsor" of the EBF for years? "My husband is a marvellous fellow, and particularly enlightened. But he is not rich. He was a banker, but not a banker with money. He is not like the Sainsburys. And now we have no money left everything has gone into the festival. Yet we still have great plans: Gluck's *Orfeo* in July at the Royal Opera, and the *Fairy Queen* with actors for Purcell's tercentenary."

Should the EBF be saved? In our grey, accountant-led age, Lalandi's flamboyant flair is an anachronism, and her domineering manner does not delight all-comers. Yet her shows continue to beguile even those sceptical of the power of Baroque opera. The world would be duller without them. Now she must hope that somebody very rich thinks so too.

● *L'Orfeo*, Royal Opera House (0171-240 1066), Sunday, 7pm

## NEW RELEASES

**ANOTHER STAGEOUT (PG)** Return visit of Richard Dreyfuss and Emilio Estevez's bartering cop, comedy and action for the easily pleased. Director, John Badham. MGM Cinema (0171-352 5068)

**ODDNESS** (K) (15) Stephen Polakoff's muddled discussion of science and money in a turn-of-the-century London. With Charles Dyer, Charles Dyer, Charles Dyer. MGM Cinema (0171-352 5068)

**CENTURY (15)** Stephen Polakoff's muddled discussion of science and money in a turn-of-the-century London. With Charles Dyer, Charles Dyer, Charles Dyer. MGM Cinema (0171-352 5068)

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**MADE IN (15)**



The producer responsible for televising *Middlemarch* criticises the demise of a great BBC tradition. Interview by Michael Church

# Dramatic view of the BBC

When *Middlemarch* begins its series progress on television this month, two golden ages will be recalled at a stroke. Back to the great British novel. And back to something else which, though more recent, had seemed as irrevocably lost: the art of transferring the great British novel, accessible and without jargon, to the small domestic screen.

No prizes for guessing the author of this adaptation: Andrew Davies may be the obvious choice, but he is also far away from best. Michael Hordern and Robert Hardy are among the supporting cast for a trio of newcomers: Douglas Hodge, Rufus Sewell, and Juliet Aubrey — who are about to become household names. Anthony Page, the director, is a top-flight Brit who has been lured home from a career in America.

This harking back to the work of a BBC producer called Louis Marks is another non-household name, but in the trade, a name — literally — to conjure with. This is due as much to his headstart survival as to the excellence of his output. While impresarios have risen and fallen, and come and gone, Marks has carried the torch for televised drama with maturity.

His manner is modest, and he is a listener, not a holder-forth. But watching the BBC destroy its drama department over the past years, even he has found a voice. "It's been de-skilled and casualised," he says, and lists a series of disasters of which *Eldorado* and *A Year in Provence* are merely the last visible.

Last year central accounting loss of £60 million hit drama hard, with the result that Marks was one of the tiny handful of producers allowed to go on working. The brutal

rationalisations just completed by Charles Denton, the new drama head, may lead to a recovery. But the danger of complete fragmentation, says Marks, is far from over.

His own career is illuminating. He started life as a schoolmaster, set up and ran the literary magazine *Books and Bookmen*, and then found himself creating scripts for ITV's *Robin Hood*. He wrote for the weekly thriller *No. 13*, followed by the inaugural series of *Doctor Who*, and then conceived a soap called *Honey Lane*, based on Soho's Berwick Market.

**Marks is one of the British producers that the Americans now watch like hawks**

which ran for three years in the late Sixties.

After this bleeding in showbiz, Marks went as a script editor to the BBC. Two years later, having produced several plays by the fledgling writer Andrew Davies, he fell victim to routine executive caprice. In charge of an axed project, he was facing the axe himself.

Saved by a letter out of the blue, a new Davies script arrived, entitled *Fearless Frank*. The life and loves of the ineffable Frank Harris — whom Wilde alleged was "invited to every great house in England — once" — offered ideal material for the game Marks was then playing.

Six directors turned down the script as unproducible —

no scene lasted longer than 30 seconds — but the seventh took the ball and ran with it. The television show, starring Leonard Rossiter and Susan Penhaligon, was turned into a London stage hit, and only bombed on Broadway when the American producers insisted on taking out the sex.

Then came another letter out of the blue: a single sheet of paper from an agent on behalf of a writer, of whom Marks had not heard, called Andrew Birkin. "When I read it," says Marks, "I literally shook with excitement." This was the germ which he developed into *The Lost Boys*, the biographical trilogy starring Ian Holm as J.M. Barrie, which is now generally accepted as one of the most flawless things ever achieved in the medium.

This medium may have been TV-film, but what most enthused Marks then — and haunts him in retrospect — was the exhilarating potential of studio-drama. Television drama's obsession with film, and the still-prevailing snobbery towards studio work, is in his view the root cause of its current malaise.

"Suddenly, around 1980, nobody wanted to be a mere television director any more, and this was coupled with some very naive political thinking. The then-radicals argued that because it all took place in the BBC studios, it was therefore an established product. To be politically free, you had to work with film, far away from London. They failed to see how freely the imagination could run in the studio — if you let it."

In its heyday, BBC drama was turning out 90 plays a year, and scripts could go into production within weeks of delivery. Film, with its ponderous gestation, put an end to this direct relationship between writer and audience.



Louis Marks: "It's a long time since viewers have been asked to watch six hours of drama set in the past, without murder, mayhem, or 'contemporary' issues"

"The writer's voice in television," Marks says, "has largely been lost."

Running the *Play of the Month* slot — on which the BBC's current *Performance* series is a somewhat pallid variant — Marks presided over a string of coups, with David Bowie in Brecht's *Baal*, Anthony Hopkins and Peggy Ashcroft in Ibsen's *Little Eyolf*, Jeanne Moreau and Omar Sharif in Sartre's *Vicious Circle*, and a version of Schnitzler's *La Ronde* to rival Ophul's great film. All shot cheaply in the studio.

At this time Marks began a long collaboration with Harold Pinter, of which the most recent fruit — the playwright's film of Kafka's *The Trial* —

was broadcast two weeks ago. Whereon hangs a tale which goes the normally placid Marks to fury. *The Trial* was a film for theatrical release, but in a piece of amazing cack-handedness the BBC chose to premiere it just after it had shown Orson Welles's celebrated version.

"This was precisely the comparison we were hoping to avoid," Marks says. "We got an appalling critical reception, slammed for being too tied to reality. But Harold took the view that this was not a work on which you had to impose a nightmare. The nightmare lies in the fact that it is all so realistic. Welles's film says more about Welles than it does about Kafka." One critic,

fumes Marks, castigated it for being full of Pinterisms. "But they were all Kafkaisms. Harold's screenplay was extraordinarily self-effacing."

At least he's having the last laugh. The film is doing well in the video shops, and its American distributors are showing it widely. Marks is one of the British producers that the Americans now watch like hawks, ready to pounce on any co-production deal which will repeat the commercial success of those other small-budget products, Mike Newell's *Enchanted April* and Anthony Minghella's *Truly Madly Deeply*.

*Middlemarch* is a co-production with the Boston public broadcasting system.

"I'm slightly nervous for it," Marks says. "Not because I don't believe in its quality, or in the Chekhovian power of the story, which matches private hopes and disappointments against political ups and downs. But it's a long time since viewers have been asked to sit down for over six hours

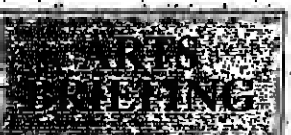
of drama set in the past, without murder and mayhem, or any 'contemporary' issues apart from a pervasive feminism. In this era of three-minute culture, it may suffer. This may be a test of what's now possible on television."

● *Middlemarch* begins next Wednesday on BBC2, 8pm

## Opening in Wales

AFTER all the ballyhoo about the new national galleries in Cardiff and Glasgow, a gallery calling itself the "Museum of Modern Art, Wales" opens its doors, almost unnoticed, next Monday. It is not exactly a new venture; located in Machynlleth in mid-Wales, it has evolved out of the Tabernacl Cultural Centre, established in 1986. The museum already has one of the finest collections of modern painting in Wales, including works by Stanley Spencer, Augustus Prynne and Wyndham Lewis, all in permanent exhibition. This new venture opens with paintings by Jill Cope.

● NEW productions of *Swan Lake* and *Cinderella* have helped English National Ballet end the year on a financial high. According to its annual



report, ENB did well enough at the box office in 1992-93 to pay off some £120,000 of its deficit: down to £277,538 from £400,441 the previous year. Says finance director Richard Elliott, this was achieved "by not being as artistically adventurous as artistic directors would have liked us to be."

### Last chance...

WHEN the celebratory show at the Victoria and Albert Museum (071-938 8500) says "150 Years of the Christmas Card" it means precisely that. Sir Henry Cole, later principal curator of the museum, devised the first Christmas card ever sent in 1843. Its history since then is traced in the exhibition, which ends on Saturday.

## All worked up with nowt to do

### THEATRE REVIEW

A frozen-Brussels sprout striking the human bonce at high velocity can be fatal. Glen took the aforesaid vegetable on the temple like a man and, we glean, bit the dust.

The other boys in boiler suits working — or rather playing away — the graveyard shift at a delivery depot in Stockport are in shock. They have to give up Sprout Tag, their fave game. Now they are obliged to entertain themselves with plain old Shove-Tuna, flan-case discus training and other bizarre shopfloor sports such as whacking each other, blindfold, with rainbow trout.

The opening scenes, a chain of comic sketches along the lines of silly sports super-market-style — do not inspire big belly laughs and appear to be skating across the surface.

However, Tim Firth's play, traces of artificiality and slight preachiness apart, intelligent moves from absurd surreal details to issues of import (pyramidal social hierarchies; hopes of climbing the ladder; machismo and puerility; male friendships and heterosexual attraction).

Moreover Firth, now on his fourth piece for Scarborough's Theatre in the Round, is strongest in his dramatic shift, as the night progresses, away from light entertainment and towards the dark side. Firth is a clear-headed craftsman, a little too schematic but ably following through several

stories of surprisingly protean relationships within the group and showing us — aided by the child-like physicality worked in by director Connal Orton — a tale of growing up even as we watch adults interacting.

It is, no doubt, to Firth's credit that he does make a laugh-out stock of characters who seem, initially at least, to be at the bottom of the intellectual pile. Nonetheless, the standard of humour of these lads, relentlessly bonding and bullying each other through pranks and jokes, rubs off troublously on the writer's own comedy. Bruce, leader of the gang, the

brightest of the bunch and the main character, surely needs to be more amusing and sympathetic. His wisecracks are insufficiently witty to atone for his irritating funny-man mania. All the same, what the play really sets out to explore is the profound frustration at the root of, and the triviality and aggression at the heart of, such desperate time-filling.

Stephen Tompkinson (Bruce) is slightly mannered but gives a high energy performance. Paul McCrinn is lovable, disturbing and ridiculously pathetic as the underdog Craig. Finally, Michelle Buttery, Mark Benton and David MacCreedy (Debbie, Ewan, and Dids) make the second half worth the wait, though the production is hardly a real knock-out.

KATE BASSETT

**The End of the Food Chain**  
Stephen Joseph  
Scarborough

### MANCHESTER BECKONS

MANCHESTER

March 18-20

FOLLOWING the success of Birmingham's Year of Music in 1992 and the East Midlands Year of Dance last year, Manchester has been designated 'City of Drama' for 1994, the third-year of the Arts Council's Arts 2000 initiative. The Theatre Club has put together a special weekend from March 18 to 20 to see the work of two of the world's greatest directors, Peter Brook and Yukio Ninagawa.

After checking in on Friday at the four-star Britannia Hotel, in the heart of Manchester, members will be off that night to see *Peer Gynt* at the Palace Theatre. (Ninagawa's rarely performed masterpiece is directed by Ninagawa with an international cast of 40. The production is sponsored by Manchester airport as part of the City of Drama international season.)

Saturday is free for you to explore the city's several galleries are mounting exhibitions with a dramatic theme. Then, in the evening, we've arranged tickets for members to see Brook's production of *The Man Who...*

Brook is without doubt one of the most influential

## THE THEATRE CLUB

theatre directors of the 20th century. His most recent productions, *The Mahabharata* and *The Tempest*, were both sold out. His latest production, based on Oliver Sacks's neurological case studies, *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat*, is sure to be one of the most talked-about shows of the year. On Sunday afternoon there will be an opportunity to join an open discussion about the play with Brook, Sacks and Jonathan Miller.

The cost of the weekend is £99, which includes tickets for both shows, the discussion and two nights' accommodation with full English breakfast. To book please telephone 071-273 0383 or 0904 638973.

For details about how to join the Theatre Club please telephone 071-357 9673 during office hours.

### CREME DE LA CREME

#### Senior Secretary to £17,000

High office commercial association wishes to appoint a mature well presented secretary/PA to provide full secretarial and organisational assistance to a busy Head of Division. Drafting your own correspondence, liaising frequently with member companies, and dealing with queries and liaison matters during your day's work. This is a very busy role where no two days are the same. Wordperfect 5.1, using 60 wpm, immediate start.

#### Career Prospects £15,000 a year

Young ambitious MD of expanding corporate finance house seeks an exceptional secretary who wants to develop their career. Working as part of a small team, you will be providing full secretarial/admin support, getting involved in research projects, new business development as well as client liaison & entertainment. Workdays self-motivated, ambitious person who enjoys pressure. Age 23+. Skills: 60 typing.

#### PA to Chairman £20,000+

Newly appointed Chairman of major international company seeks a professional career PA. Working for a dynamic & ambitious boss who expects nothing less than the best, it will enable you to develop your skills in a challenging environment. This is a prestigious position which requires someone used to the pressures of working at senior level & who is looking for a genuinely demanding role. Age 30-40. Skills: 100/60 Word for 50 wpm.

The Recruitment Company  
071-831 1220

#### SECRETARY/PERSON FRIDAY Aged 35 plus

Requires for Chairman of small friendly Advertising Agency. The position calls for a committed person with good telephone manner and secretarial skills in the advertising industry. Essential standard of English and attention to detail are essential. Advertising experience useful as is the ability to drive. Hours 10-4, salary negotiable.

Please send CV to: Recruitment Advertising Ltd, 2-3 Duke Street, London W1M 6AA.

Please no telephone calls and No Agencies

### MIRROR GROUP NEWSPAPERS HUMAN RESOURCES

We currently have 2 openings within our HR department for shorthand secretaries: PA to the HR Director - this is a busy and demanding position for a 1st class PA with excellent skills (£60/60) providing full secretarial and administrative support.

Junior Secretary - ideal for a 2nd jobber with good shorthand/wp skills with some knowledge of spreadsheets/graphics (Excel/Lotus). Working for 2 managers you will provide secretarial support with the opportunity to get more involved in HR projects.

A flexible approach to hours and the ability to work well under pressure - these are not 9-5 jobs! Relocating to Canary Wharf shortly. CVs with current salary & daytime telephone number to:

Jill Harrison, Personnel Services Executive, Mirror Group Newspapers, 33 Holborn, London EC1P 1DQ

### PARTNER'S SECRETARY

(Based near Warren Street Tube)

This firm of Chartered Accountants require two secretaries, one to work for the Staff Partner and a second for the Finance Partner. Each vacancy requires a well presented, experienced, confidential secretary with first class WP/Audio skills, an eye for detail, a flexible attitude and good English Grammar. Please send your CV detailing your salary expectations to:

Mrs Julia Sinclair  
Partnership Administrator  
H W Fisher & Co  
11/15 William Road  
London NW1 3ER  
(No Agencies).

### ACADEMIC SECRETARY UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

An experienced personal secretary with excellent shorthand and keyboard skills is required to work for a senior Professor and his group in the Department of Anatomy and Developmental Biology at University College, London. The person appointed will be highly organised and have a good telephone manner, knowledge of Applique Word would be advantageous. Duties will include organisation of a busy travel schedule, arrangements for visiting scientists and preparation of scientific manuscripts. This post is grant funded and available initially from 1st March 1994 to 30th June 1997. Starting salary in the range £18,222 - £19,338, including London Allowance. Applications, including a full CV and the names of two referees, to be sent to: Dr Barbara Pittman, Administrator, Department of Anatomy and Developmental Biology, University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT before Thursday 20th January 1994.

WORKING TOWARD EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

### NEW YEAR NEW CAREER

Intensive or flexible training courses in information technology and secretarial skills starting at any time  
St James's Secretarial College  
Kensington, London SW5  
071 373 3832  
25% Tax Relief on all self-funded training  
Careers Advisory Service available

### SECRETARY/PA PACKAGE £20,000+

We are seeking a highly organised Secretary/PA for the Group Managing Director of a publishing company. The position is a varied and interesting one. You must have good shorthand (90/100 wpm), excellent typing and a sense of humour. Age: 25-35. Please send your CV with a covering letter to: Claire Bishop, 22 Lancaster Gate, London W2 3LY

### SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT

Reporting to the President, the position is intended to provide a full range of professional and personal secretarial services. A good attitude and respect for confidentiality is a natural pre-requisite for this position. Applicants must be fully experienced senior secretaries and have excellent communication, organisational and typing abilities with a flexible work attitude and be computer literate.

Please send written applications with full CV to: J. Pryor, 4 Derwentham Place, Heathfield Terrace, Chirwell, London W4 4JD Marked "Private and Confidential"

No Agencies Please.

### WHY OPEN YOUR OWN RECRUITMENT AGENCY?

This is a unique opportunity for a self generating motivated experienced Consultant to join us in our booming business venture in the heart of the West End. Manage your own desk whilst also receiving full support and back up. Operate autonomously and as a Team Player in a relaxed friendly environment. Use your charisma and negotiating skills to their fullest, supplying Secretarial Personnel to some of London's finest organisations.

Call Vivienne in strictest confidence to discuss further. Daytime: 071 437 8890 Eves/W.Eeds: 071 286 9526.

KOMPASS RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT

### SECRETARY

£13,500 Per Annum  
Secretary required to work in the Japanese department of an exclusive travel company based in Battersea. Initiative, good organisational/secretarial skills and ability to work with a team are the essential qualities required to join this growing company. Please contact George on 071-223 0601.

### SECRETARY REQUIRED

Chartered Secretary - Oxford Circus London W1  
Property Management Department  
Account: Word Processing (WordPerfect 5.0)  
Computer Literacy to use Management Systems  
Good administrative skills and ability to deal with correspondence and filing for Director and four Managing Secretaries in busy department.  
Send full CV to: KJB Taylor PRCS  
York Montague, 11 York Place, London W1R 1AG  
Tel: 071-481 6512  
no agencies

### EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Can you help run a small group of companies with the emphasis on property, lease with principals, deal with figures and one a W/P? Is so then please reply to: Angela Ryan at our office in St James 071 550 4951

### WANTED FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT

Chartered Administrator for top West End Fashion showrooms. Must have secretarial and book-keeping experience. In creative friendly and showroom pleasant environment. Salary according to ability.  
Tel: 071-204 5272 for further details.

### TV/EVENTS PA's £16K

Worldwide Sport & Music organisations require self motivated confident PA's to assist MD's with marketing & research. A wide range of European language an 40 wpm skills. Age 25-35.  
ROYDS RAPHAEL  
071-287 2060

### FIRST RATE AUDIO TYPIST

Working for Partners in busy professional property firm. Some of humour essential.  
Kinney & Green  
1 Laurence Pountney Lane, EC4A 3DB  
Tel: 071 232 7116.  
By fax or post only  
By Jan 10th

### BROADGATE BUSINESS CENTRE ASSISTANT

Our prestigious City office offers a client-orientated role to work as part of a small friendly team. A mature attitude, confident approach and excellent interpersonal skills are essential. In addition you will have:-  
- Knowledge of WordPerfect 5.1  
- 60 WPM Typing  
- Quality image  
- Excellent organisational skills  
Interested candidates should apply by sending their Curriculum Vitae to:  
Mrs Jean Young, PORTFOLIO RECRUITMENT, Stockley Park, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB11 1AA or telephone 061 899 1702 for an Application Form

071 204 5272



## Prospecting? Go West!

**£21,000 + Benefits**  
Entrepreneurial West End Management Consultancy needs an enthusiastic secretary familiar with the pressures of a client-driven environment. The varied role requires confidence, assertiveness, a team spirit and good organisational skills. Duties will include diary management, scheduling meetings, correspondence, DTP production and extensive administration. Excellent prospects for further responsibilities and to become involved in research work. Age 25-35. DTP/City experience useful, good secretarial skills essential. Please call Karen Levine at Crone Corkill on 071-377 8827.

**Crone Corkill**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Private Secretary Hampstead to £20,000 AAE

Feed up with the high-rise, high-banister working life of Central London? If fashionable Hampstead appeals, the business head of an entrepreneurial family needs a highly skilled secretary. Most of your work will concern the smooth running of a large, successful prep school - dealing with enquiries, showing parents the facilities, liaising with staff and suppliers and providing first class secretarial and administrative support. You need fast shorthand (100wpm+) and a charming, fun and flexible nature. Ideal age 21-28. Please telephone Catherine Ferguson on 071-377 8827.

**Crone Corkill**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Banking Opportunities To £16,000 plus £4,000 pkg

A major UK Investment Bank has several openings within Corporate Finance for Team Secretaries. You will be providing support to a team of three using fast shorthand and organising meetings and extensive travel arrangements in a professional, fast moving environment. Progression and career opportunities are available if you have confident skills of 90/60 wpm. This is an ideal opportunity to move into banking and take advantage of an excellent benefits package. Age range: 20-35. Please call Annie Houstoun, or Claire Ashley on 071-377 8827 for an immediate interview.

**Crone Corkill**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Secretary £18,000-£20,000 Stop Searching...

Start Headhunting! Two delightful Partners of a leading International Executive Search company seek a top level secretary to assist them in all areas of their varied and fascinating work. Lots of client and candidate contact combined with arranging meetings and organising diaries. This is a busy role for someone with fast skills (80/65/audiotyping) a sound CV and a good sense of humour, who likes never having a dull moment! Age 24-32. Please call Elizabeth Wood on 071-434 4512.

**Crone Corkill**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Dedicated PA No Shorthand £19,500 + OF

High-profile Partner in renowned City law firm needs a dedicated PA. Dynamic and very successful, he specialises in Corporate Finance so you and he are in the thick of major corporate, wheeling and dealing. Working on a one-to-one basis you'll need discretion, you are fast and efficient and accurate audio typing. He is PC-literate, approachable and appreciative and looking for a stylish, well spoken person with an Investment Banking background. Age 23-30. Please telephone Catherine Ferguson on 071-377 8827.

**Crone Corkill**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Executive Receptionist £16,000 + Banking Package

International Investment Bank requires an experienced, professional and poised receptionist with impeccably high standards to work within Private Clients. You will be the first point of contact for many prestigious clients in addition to organising dinners, arranging meeting rooms and maintaining supplies. A minimum of five years reception experience gained in a major organisation, immaculate presentation and basic typing skills are needed. Age range 25-40. Please call Claire Ashley on 071-377 8827 for an immediate interview.

**Crone Corkill**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Everybody's Talking Money £22,000 +++ pkg

...and about the City again so take this opportunity to join a leading Investment Bank with worldwide offices and a superb reputation. They are looking for an enthusiastic PA with flair and drive to support a high flying director and his team. Working under constant pressure, you will need to maintain a fast pace and juggle a variety of tasks including co-ordinating travel, typing presentations and extensive senior level liaison. Age 20's. Excellent secretarial skills, A levels, City background ideal. Please telephone Kate Hodson on 071-377 8827.

**Crone Corkill**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Be A Success - Join Us!

Recently re-structured to meet the demands of the 90's, Crone Corkill is a highly successful and rapidly expanding Recruitment Consultancy established in 1977. We have excellent opportunities throughout the Group for people with a proven track record in recruitment or sales. On-going training and support will be given together with the scope to develop your career as the company continues to grow. Our Permanent, Temporary and Multilingual Divisions need ambitious candidates who will rise to the challenge of our fast moving, exciting industry. £16,000-£20,000 plus commission, bonus and good benefits. To become part of our success ring Elizabeth Wood in confidence on 071-434 4512 or fax applications on 071-437 9239.

**Crone Corkill**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES

**A WEALTH OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR 1994  
FROM KNIGHTSBRIDGE TO THE CITY  
TO £22,000**  
Are you an experienced PA/Secretary? Do you possess proven experience, a professional and outgoing attitude, the ability to communicate at all levels and excellent skills, (shorthand 80-120)? We currently have a large variety of interesting positions both Permanent and Temporary, based throughout Central London.  
If you would like to find out more please contact us on 071-235 8427 or fax your CV on 071-235 3666.



**SECRETARIES  
NEW START FOR 1994!**  
SALARIES RANGING FROM £11,000 to £25,000  
If you are looking for a new challenge in 1994 and feel that you are not being developed to your full potential, we have several secretarial vacancies in a variety of areas. Our clients include media, PR, blue chip, property, TV and financial companies. You should have good secretarial skills and relevant experience may be useful.  
Please call SOPHIE or LISA on 071-938 1718

**UP TO £20,000  
SECRETARY TO LEGAL DIRECTOR**  
This fast moving West End Company are seeking an experienced executive secretary. Audio typing and up to date word processing skills are essential. Shorthand is not required, knowledge of legal work is a definite advantage.  
Call REED EMPLOYMENT on 071-481 2861  
85 Fenchurch Street,  
London,  
EC3M 4BE

## No Experience Needed! £15,000

Fast-moving and very friendly City Public Relations firm need an outgoing and enthusiastic person who is willing to be trained as their receptionist. Excellent prospects for further development if you're eager to learn and have slow touch typing. Age: early 20's. Interested? Please call Annie Houstoun on 071-377 8827.

**Crone Corkill**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

**THE EMBASSY  
LONDON STADIUM,  
HACKNEY**  
Start at the beginning as this magnificent racing stadium is being built. We need:  
A super s/w sec (90/70) with shorthand, ability to work under pressure, taking minutes and generally assisting three directors. Hours 9.30-5.30 Mon-Fri.  
Unfathomable Receptionist/Telephoneist (Goldstar) with the first stand upon you will be dealing with all enquiries and taking restaurant bookings. 9-6pm Mon-Fri.  
Excellent salaries for right applicants and car parking available.  
Please fax CV's to Val Clark on 071-368 5357.  
No agencies please.

**CHISWICK PA  
£17,000**  
Organised PA for MD of Inter. Co. Ex. exp. of English and exp. at senior level, as well as ability to supervise. Wpwr. exp. est. Age 35+.  
**ADVERTISING  
PA £16,000**  
As PA to dynamic MD, you'll provide min. sec. support (80/65/70/75) (Wpwr) but lots of admin. Deal with clients, suppliers, recruitment & run the show. Age 25/35.  
**CALL ALBANY  
APPOINTMENTS  
(Rec Cons) 071-493-8611**

**PA ORGANISER  
TO £18,000**  
New position to totally organise property executive. Working for this dynamic team within a young firm, the pace will be fast and fast paced. You'll hold the fort on his frequent trips to Europe and exercise your secretarial skills including shorthand and WP. Nice offices near St Pauls. Age around 30.  
Call Maggie Lane on 071 256 6668 or fax 071 256 7273  
**LOVE+TATE**

**REC/SEC TO  
CHAIRMAN  
PARK LANE  
£13,500 + BENS**  
Fast-paced opportunity for a superbly presented and well motivated applicant. Fast-paced office with fast pace. High type 50 wpm with excellent phone manner. Please call 071 256 6668 or fax 071 256 7273  
**LOVE+TATE**

## MEDIA SECRETARIES £9,000 - £17,000

Are you looking for your next step into  
**ADVERTISING, PUBLISHING, PR,  
MARKETING, DESIGN OR PROMOTIONS.**  
As one of London's most sought after Media Consultancies we are always on the look out for  
**PA'S/TEAM  
SECRETARIES/RECEPTIONISTS &  
COLLEGE LEAVERS WITH 50WPM**  
preferably with experience of the above industries or looking to make a break into the media world.  
For an initial discussion call one of our Specialist Consultants,  
Christopher Keats of  
Convent Garden.  
Phone 071 379 4164.



**£20,000 IMAGE**  
The Chairman of this internationally respected design and marketing company, needs the support of a superb PA. The pace is fast, standards are high and with many household names on his client list, your role is to make his life run smoothly - a simple but vital task for a PA who really cares. Age about 30. Skills 100/60  
**DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES**  
071 629 9323

## INVESTOR RELATIONS c £20,000 package

Leading City Bank require ambitious secretary with good administrative skills for an expanding role within the Investor Relations team. In addition to general secretarial support you will have extensive client liaison with continuous events, meetings and travel to be organised. You must be flexible, well presented and able to cope under pressure. Shorthand must be good, 90 wpm, to keep up with their correspondence, notes and presentation work.

## TRADING FLOOR £17,000 plus banking package

Working for the young lead dealer of this exciting and demanding area you will be thrown into the deep end from day 1! The emphasis is on 'looking after' your boss newly arrived from New York. He will need your understanding of the City, knowledge of restaurants, theatres, etc. for client entertainment and general support to help him settle in. Good organisational skills a must plus shorthand at 80/90 wpm.

Please call Marianne Hope on  
**071-734 8484**

**PAN EUROPEAN  
RECRUITMENT**

## COLLEGE LEAVERS

Personnel - A bright, resilient college leaver (or Junior secretary with 3-6 months experience) is needed within the large and busy personnel department of one of the City's leading Merchant Banks. Good presentation and education required. Immediate start. £11,500 plus paid overtime.

City Brokers - Superb opportunity for a college leaver to gain first class training as a secretary by working alongside a senior secretary. You must be a team player, flexible with good shorthand (80 wpm+) and audio skills. £12,000 plus company benefits.

Marketing - Leading Investment Company in the City seek intelligent college leaver for their busy marketing department. You must have plenty of initiative and bags of energy to keep up with the rest of the team. Audio/copy skills plus WordPerfect 5.1. £12,000 plus banking benefits.

Please call Marianne Hope on  
**071-734 8484**

**PAN EUROPEAN  
RECRUITMENT**

## EXECUTIVE SEARCH £14,000

The ability to cope with Senior Management and more junior staff with equal tact - both face to face and on the telephone - is essential for this Secretarial/Receptionist position. Good typing ability is necessary but a confident, pleasant manner and good presentation are the most important qualities to this friendly well-established W1 company. Immediate start.

Please call Marianne Hope on  
**071-734 8484**

**PAN EUROPEAN  
RECRUITMENT**

## Word for Windows Secretaries

For our major client the  
European Bank for Reconstruction & Development  
we currently require experienced secretaries for a variety of temporary opportunities. A City or financial background would be ideal. Shorthand always useful.  
If you have the required word processing knowledge, & are looking for work within a challenging international environment, supported by an attractive pay & benefits package, please call Claire Baker immediately.  
Tel: 071-488 2880  
78 Fenchurch Street,  
London EC3M 4BT

**MANPOWER**  
You can measure the difference

## BELGRAVIA

Our Client, an international entrepreneur, requires a graduate with political research experience to be his assistant. As his PA, you will be highly involved in all aspects of his work and must be capable of deputising in his absence. Excellent secretarial & interpersonal skills, a proven understanding of politics is preferable. Some previous political experience required. Beautiful office. Salary £20,000.  
Rodgers & Gillespie (Rec Cons)  
071 409 0744

## FINANCIAL TIMES EDITORIAL SECRETARY £14,500 p.a.

The news desk of the Financial Times, hub of the paper's daily operations, is looking for a bright and lively secretary. The position has some routine attached to it but can also be hectic and unpredictable.  
You will probably be a second jobber with a good general education and excellent secretarial skills of 50/90 wpm. In addition you will need a sense of humour, an ability to work under pressure and to get on with people.  
Benefits include five weeks holiday - rising to six weeks, subsidised restaurant and sports club facilities, interest free season ticket loan, free medical health insurance and employee share scheme. Some of these benefits are subject to service a qualification.  
Please apply in writing enclosing an up-to-date CV and a short covering letter explaining why you think you would be the ideal candidate for this position to:  
Personnel Dept (ref: Edt. Sec.)  
Financial Times  
Number One Southwark Bridge  
London SE1 9EL  
(No Agencies)

## Marketing! Perfect 2nd Job £15,000+

Marketing Manager of prestigious law firm requires an enthusiastic secretary to become part of her team. Using your knowledge of current projects together with a good telephone manner you will handle daily enquiries and occasionally write your own correspondence. Your strong organisational and administrative skills together with initiative, flexibility and a willingness to support the team are essential. 60 typing. Age 22+. Beautiful offices and good benefits inc paid overtime. Please call Virginia Wancha. 071-434 4512.

**Crone Corkill**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## FILM/TV £17,500

Personable PA needed to assist Group Finance Director of a highly successful Film and TV Production company. Must have strong secretarial skills (minimum 60wpm) and should be able to handle both figures and phones with precision and wit. The job involves the smooth-running of the office with a great deal of liaison with company. If you have sound secretarial experience and want to work with a busy, committed team, call us now.

**JUDY FISHER  
ASSOCIATES  
071-437 2277**  
Recruitment Consultants

## A SPORTING CHANCE!

Most exciting promotion company SW1, seek exp. PA/Secretary with skilful 80/60 skills plus fast shorthand. Reporting to MD, but capable of working as part of a small team in a fast, relaxed office. Salary £21,000 p.a.  
**SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST**  
For small London consultancy, St. James's, SW1. Good audio/WP skills + pleasant telephone manner to deal with prestigious clients. Well-organised self-starter able to prioritise own work-load. Age 23-30ish, salary c. £15,000 p.a.

**LEGAL AUDIO SECRETARY**  
For two positions in property dept of prestigious SW1 law firm. Pleasant, confident person with fast accurate shorthand/Word Perfect W/P skills. Age: 26+. Salary £18.0, £16,000 p.a.

**PAM GREENWOOD  
PERSONNEL  
081-995 1331  
FAX: 081-742 0966**

## PROPERTY £22,000

With the recession over, growth in the property business is rapid: the Chairman of an expanding investment and development group needs a PA/Office Manager to organise his business life and to supervise the London Office. You must be a team player ready to assume responsibility, able to take decisions and willing to change at a moment's notice. Age 30-38. Speeds 180/70.  
**DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES**  
071 629 9323

## GROSVENOR

**TV - £13,000**  
Media secretary needed for a fast moving department; candidates must be team players and able to think on their feet. If you are lively, unflappable, computer literate with 80wpm shorthand, please call to discuss the vacancy in more depth.

**RUN THE OFFICE - £14,000+**  
Friendly property company in Finsbury is looking for a PA to the MD. If you enjoy being at the top of the action, have administrative skills and a good sense of humour, together with 50wpm typing/WP and 80wpm shorthand - don't hesitate to call.  
**GROSVENOR BUREAU. RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS**  
TEL: 071-499 6566

## TELEVISION - FILM PUBLISHING - PR - MUSIC

Time for a change? If you have good secretarial skills and thrive in a creative atmosphere we have the best selection of temporary & permanent vacancies in town. Whether you are a senior PA or a College Leaver - looking for a career move or a few days temping call us today.

**JUDY FISHER  
ASSOCIATES  
071-437 2277**  
Recruitment Consultants

## EXCITING CAREER OPPORTUNITY

This leading exhibition organising company is looking for a young bright PA/Sec to work largely unsupervised for 2 exhibition organisers. If you want a job 70% organisational where your intelligence and communication skills will be used to the full as you are prepared to commit yourself to a demanding, fast moving environment, please ring us urgently Possible Temp to Perm. 90/50. Firm/Germ/Ital allowed.  
**071-726 8491**

**Angela Mortimer**  
SECRETARIAL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANCY

## JUNIOR REQUIRED FOR COUTURE HOUSE

Couture House experiences in supervising but the candidate must be reasonably computer literate, have some secretarial skills, be prepared to work hard for this high calibre company. The role is for a good all rounder and the candidate will gain detailed working knowledge of a top couture house, busy and hectic of fashion world.  
Please apply with CV to Michelle Ormrod  
33 Roland Gardens, London SW7.

## EXECUTIVE CREME

**PA/ADMINISTRATOR**  
Required for the Director of the South East Asian Department of a major Fine Art Dealer in London. Keyboard skills and shorthand or audio required plus an ability to compile wordlists, track control, and filing systems of the documents, liaising and supervising as necessary. Salary negotiable p.a.c.  
Please write to Box No 5329



TO ADVERTISE  
CALL: 071 481 9994

# LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

FAX:  
071 782 7828

## Celebrate '94!

Champagne corks are popping again in London. We are overflowing with both long and short-term bookings for receptionists, secretaries and PAs for the New Year. We have diverse and rewarding assignments requiring excellent skills and presentation with leading companies in the City and West End - from Finance to Franchises and PR to Property. We will value your loyalty and guarantee you an efficient and friendly service, together with top rates. Join our temporary team now and head for success with us in 1994. Please telephone Tina or Victoria (City office) - 071-377 9919, Liz or Natalie (West End office) - 071-437 6032.

## HOBSTONES

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## RECRUITMENT £16,000-£20,000 + Commission & bens.

As market leaders in the field of secretarial recruitment we need a bright, ambitious and experienced recruitment consultant to join a highly motivated and effective team. As a professional providing a top quality service to both client and candidate, you will be given every opportunity to manage and develop existing business. If you are a high achiever, have proven sales experience, are educated to A-level standard and seek a new challenging career, please call Esther Maraden on 071-377 9919.

## HOBSTONES

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Public Relations £17-18,000

How would you describe yourself? Are you a live wire, a team player, patient and thrive on meeting deadlines? A fabulous opportunity has arisen to join a highly successful PR company working for a senior director and two of his colleagues, you will enjoy a busy day organising and planning agendas, plenty of client contact, fact finding and keeping one step ahead. Finance/PR background with 'A' levels preferred. 60+ typing/wp. Age 24-28. Please call Katy on 071-437 6032.

## HOBSTONES

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Start-Up £24,000+

Entrepreneurial partnership requires a highly organised individual to set-up their London office. As part of a dynamic team you will be totally immersed from day one with international senior level liaison, report writing and brainstorming. Your CV will demonstrate your ability and experience in 'set-up' situations, your typing speed of 60wpm and knowledge of WordPerfect for Windows. Frequent contact with European clients requires fluent French and preferably one other European language. If you are interested in hearing more, please call Caroline Tyers on 071-377 9919 or fax CV to 071-377 6455.

## HOBSTONES

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Investment Banking £21,000 pkg - West End

Two fabulous opportunities for banking secretaries have arisen within a top US Investment Bank. Superb offices and excellent benefits await you! Personal - Secretary to HR Executive whose main role encompasses recruitment. Proven administrative skills and investment banking experience essential. Trading Floor - Secretary/Assistant needed to join busy Capital Markets team. Young, fast paced, hectic environment. Trading floor experience preferred. Age: 21-20, A-levels, 60+ typing/wp/spreadsheets. Please call Fiona on 071-437 6032.

## HOBSTONES

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## WA £20-25K + Bkg Bens

## HIGH PROFILE PA with German

This is a unique opportunity for an extremely polished and confident PA with fluent German and some Italian. You will be a true assistant to a dynamic and well respected Executive Director who travels extensively round the world. You must be a high achiever who is used to working in a multicultural business environment. You will use your excellent secretarial and organisational skills to juggle his business and personal life and to deal with highly confidential matters. We require a mature and professional PA with an impressive career history and sound business acumen. A sense of humour and a desire to work closely with a charismatic boss is essential. Call Wendy Nicky on 071-430 2531 for this challenging and dynamic role. 071-225 1888

VICTORIA WALL ASSOCIATES

## WA £18,000 + Bkg Bens

## CITY PA

Liverpool Street based Merchant Bank urgently requires a bright, outgoing Secretary to organise three busy, friendly Executives. This role has a high organisational content as you coordinate the presentations your bosses give and regularly liaise with senior-level clients. You will work as part of a very friendly and sociable team so be prepared to put your party hat on when a deal is done! If you have a solid career history along with skills of 90wpm shorthand and fast accurate typing and are aged between 25 and 35 then call Sarah Williams on 071-225 1888 to hear more.

VICTORIA WALL ASSOCIATES

## WA £16,500 + Bens

## HUMAN RESOURCES

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# Wise likely to escape punishment from FA

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE outcry over the increase in the illegal use of elbows in English football continues unabated, but it is unlikely that the latest incident to inspire angry headlines and bitter comments will come to the attention of the Football Association. Though Dennis Wise was accused of using his elbow dangerously in Chelsea's match against Everton at Stamford Bridge on Monday, it seems he will escape any investigation unless Everton or an accredited FA official make a formal complaint.

Everton were furious about the challenge that damaged Matt Jackson's eye, with the club's caretaker-manager, Jimmy Gabriel, saying: "Anybody in the world would have been mad at that." However, Everton are bound to be discouraged from taking the matter further by the FA's ruling on John Fashanu, of Wimbledon, who escaped

Paul Gascoigne broke a rib in Lazio's weekend match against Sampdoria. The Rome club's doctor has confirmed, Gascoigne, who has played in only seven of Lazio's 17 league matches this season through injury, went off just after half-time after excelling in the 1-1 draw.

The doctor, Claudio Bartolini, said: "Paul has a hairline fracture of a lower rib bone on his right side and it will take two weeks to mend properly. Of course he is doubtful for the match next weekend against Foggia and the next 48 hours will be important in terms of how he reacts and how much pain there is. We will have to make a decision as to whether he plays through it."

Of Gascoigne's inspired performance against Sampdoria, Sergio Cragnotti, the Lazio president, said: "A light went out when Gascoigne went off." Cragnotti also dropped a heavy hint that coach Dino Zoff's contract would not be renewed when it expired at the end of the season. "We will talk about it at the end of the season," he said. "We will make a decision which will open up new objectives, new goals for Lazio."

JAN Aage Fjortoft, the Swindon forward, is to join Neuchâtel Xamax, the Swiss club, on loan in two weeks' time in an attempt to rediscover his goalscoring touch. Fjortoft, a Norwegian international, has not scored for Swindon since joining them for £500,000 during the summer.

punishment despite complaints from Tottenham that he deliberately injured Gary Mabbutt with an elbow during a match. Keren Barratt, the referee at Stamford Bridge, took no action at the time and so is unlikely to report the incident.

"We would only proceed with any investigation if there is a mention of a specific incident in the referee's report or if we receive a complaint from a responsible body or individual such as one of the clubs involved or an FA councillor," David Barber, an FA spokesman, said yesterday. "In the John Fashanu incident, Spurs made a complaint and we asked for the people involved to attend a hearing and look at the video. But the verdict was that there was not strong enough evidence of any intent."

Jackson, who was due to have further checks today on a damaged optic nerve, was reported as saying: "I couldn't see properly for about half-an-hour afterwards and I'm very disappointed that nothing was done at the time."

Brett Angell, the out-of-contract Southend striker, yesterday turned his back on former manager Barry Fry by agreeing to join Portsmouth instead of Birmingham City. Fry, who walked out on Southend last month to take over the managerial reins at St Andrew's, was due to attend a transfer tribunal today to decide how much Birmingham would have to pay for Angell, but he was taken aback yesterday when it transpired Angell had agreed a three-year contract with Jim Smith, the Portsmouth manager.

"My ambition has always been to play in the FA Cup," Angell said. "I feel I have a better chance of doing that with Portsmouth." Angell said, "I am sure Barry Fry will do the job at Birmingham and eventually take them up, but I see Portsmouth as the more likely contenders at the moment."

Fry, meanwhile, has agreed a £40,000 fee with Notts County for Paul Harding, the defender, who has been on loan at St Andrew's, but he has refused to meet Barnes' demand for £250,000 for another defender on loan with the club, Dave Barnett.



Pointing the way ahead, Ball directs his Exeter players during a training session yesterday

## Ball relishes return to big time

By OLIVER HOIT

IN A dank corridor beneath the stand at Farnborough Town's Cherrywood Road ground, the post-mortem into the non-League club's FA Cup first-round defeat by Exeter City was in full swing. Someone asked Alan Ball, the visitors' manager, how important the competition would be to his club this season. "We're not going to win it, I can tell you that," Ball said.

After a playing career packed full of achievement and iced with World Cup winners' medals, Ball, being among the managerial also-rans in the West Country clearly ranks. His name has not been mentioned in connection with the vacancy at Exeter, let alone Exeter's.

Exeter's third-round home tie with Aston Villa on Saturday will be a rare foray back into the limelight for the last of the Boys of '66 still in club management. His managerial career has never quite hit the heights his playing pedigree suggested it would, but the match will also be a chance for him to pit his wits against Ron Atkinson, who had only modest ability as a player yet has enjoyed consistent success as a manager.

"There is a myth surrounding Ron," Ball said. "He has this image as some sort of Mr. Bojangles with all his jewellery, but when you sit down and talk to him he is football daft and a very good manager. I'm football daft, too, but I'm not so sure about the good manager part."

"I had everything going for me as a player. I had good control and I could run, but



the most important thing is to have a football brain. If you have got a good football brain but you are one-paced or your feet are not quick enough, as Ron may have been, that will stop you from being a player, but it won't stop you from being a manager."

Ball's greatest managerial success came with Portsmouth when he took the club into the first division for the first time in 36 years in 1987, only to be dismissed in the wake of Jim Gregory's takeover of the club. "I was on my way into building it into a really big club, but then the new owner and I did not agree and I got fired," he said.

"That set my credibility back a awful long way. But for my own satisfaction, I need to achieve greater success as a manager and I know I will manage another top club if I keep believing in myself."

Ball, who bought Guy Whittingham out of the army for £450 in his last days at

Portsmouth and will face his team as a £1 million Villa player on Saturday, has spent just £135,000 assembling the Exeter team, which is in the lower half of the Endleigh Insurance League second division. "I have sold £600,000 worth of players since the start of the season and spent just £50,000," Ball said. "Trying to get another £50,000 is like pulling teeth. It's a bit slow down here, I suppose, but I've been in the fast lane for 25 years."

Ball is taking his players to a country club in Hampshire as a reward for reaching the third round and insists he is looking forward to seeing Villa play at St James's Park. "My players really have no right to be on the same pitch as them and 19 times out of 20 they would beat us, but if their minds are not right, if they do not like the look of the cramped dressing rooms or the tight pitch, then it could be our day."

Ball's greatest managerial success came with Portsmouth when he took the club into the first division for the first time in 36 years in 1987, only to be dismissed in the wake of Jim Gregory's takeover of the club. "I was on my way into building it into a really big club, but then the new owner and I did not agree and I got fired," he said.

"That set my credibility back a awful long way. But for my own satisfaction, I need to achieve greater success as a manager and I know I will manage another top club if I keep believing in myself."

Ball, who bought Guy Whittingham out of the army for £450 in his last days at

Portsmouth and will face his team as a £1 million Villa player on Saturday, has spent just £135,000 assembling the Exeter team, which is in the lower half of the Endleigh Insurance League second division. "I have sold £600,000 worth of players since the start of the season and spent just £50,000," Ball said. "Trying to get another £50,000 is like pulling teeth. It's a bit slow down here, I suppose, but I've been in the fast lane for 25 years."

Ball is taking his players to a country club in Hampshire as a reward for reaching the third round and insists he is looking forward to seeing Villa play at St James's Park. "My players really have no right to be on the same pitch as them and 19 times out of 20 they would beat us, but if their minds are not right, if they do not like the look of the cramped dressing rooms or the tight pitch, then it could be our day."

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## Poaching dampens optimism for Australia visit



Devereux: possible move

JUST when it seemed that British rugby league no longer had anything to fear about Australia, comes an apparent rush by leading players here to emigrate. The cry of "bring on the Aussies", which followed the white-wash of New Zealand last November, has a less confident ring about it now.

Nine months before Australia's visit here, battle has already been joined. Unless the temptations being put before players to move to southern hemisphere clubs can be resisted, Great Britain's best chance of winning their first series for 24 years against the world champions could be in jeopardy.

Malcolm Reilly, the national team coach, has insisted that, in spite of the move by Andy Platt to the Auckland Warriors at the end of the season, he will still be considered for selection.

Christopher Irvine reports on the disturbing trend of top players emigrating

The confrontation, starting in October, is Reilly's chief concern. Other players are expected to join Platt in Auckland, as well as new clubs being set up in Australia, and the handful of friendly matches they will have played there are not the ideal preparation for the intensity of a series against Australia.

The longer-term consequences are more worrying still. New Zealand's failings are an example of the problems faced by having players scattered worldwide. With the new clubs, Perth

Reds, who hope to sign John Devereux from Widnes and Queensland Crushers, also stepping up poaching activities. Maurice Lindsay, the Rugby Football League chief executive, has called an urgent meeting with Ken Arthurson, his Australian counterpart.

Lindsay is unlikely to get the most sympathetic of ears. For many years, English money lured away Australia's best. With the roles reversed, Arthurson could rightly claim natural justice. The best deterrent to defections probably lies in Lindsay's plans to get the game's financial house in order, although this might be too late to put off other following Platt's lead.

Wigan, inevitably, are under the greatest pressure, although their prospects are a case of the bitter bit, after years craving off the best from

everyone else. Andrew Farrell, Barrie Jon Mather and Shaun Edwards are being tempted by new contracts or extensions to their existing ones, after being targeted by Auckland, while Botes will keep them at Central Park for another season and a half.

Not all clubs have the financial muscle to withstand repeated overtures from overseas, however. After capturing Platt and Dean Bell from Wigan, Auckland have also succeeded in the past five days in prising two more New Zealanders away from Oldham and Teo Ropati, last season's first division player of the year, from St Helens. The £70,000 received for each player, the maximum under international rules, is scant consolation.

## US lose as Lendl makes his debut

IVAN Lendl's debut for the United States was a flop yesterday as his adopted country was swept out of the Hopman Cup tennis tournament at the quarter-final stage by unseeded Germany in Perth. The Czech-born Lendl, who became an American citizen in July 1992 and his partner, Mary Joe Fernandez, were outplayed by the more youthful Bernd Karbacher and Anke Huber.

Lendl, 33, was beaten 6-3, 6-1 by the pencil-thin Karbacher after Fernandez had been coolly defeated 6-2, 7-6 by Huber. Two of Lendl's former companions did reach the last four when the Czech Republic, the top seeds, beat Switzerland 2-1, largely thanks to the in-form Petr Korda.

Serg Bruguera, the French Open champion and world No 4 from Spain, joins Andre Agassi, the former Wimbledon champion, as an absentee from the Australian Open, which starts later this month in Melbourne. He is injured and will also miss his planned warm-up at the Rio Challenge in Adelaide, where he will be replaced by Henri Leconte.

## Chen feels strain

TABLE TENNIS: Chen Xinhua, the England No 1, was left with a dilemma over his busy schedule after his first and only appearance in the four-match series against Japan at the South Kensington Centre last night (Richard Easton writes).

Chen was also unusually jaded when losing unexpectedly 21-16, 21-7 to Yuji Matsushita, of Japan, in the semi-finals of the Cleveland Five-Star Open at the Thornaby Pavilion on Monday, and he is concerned at the age of 33 to preserve himself for his most important challenges. The German Bundesliga provides Chen with most of his income, and he also needs to concentrate on winning medals with England in the European league, the European Nations Cup and the European championships. This may place a question mark over his participation in the European Top 12 tournament in Arezzo, Italy, next month.

## Conner returns

YACHTING: Dennis Conner, the four-times America's Cup winner, will be back for the third leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race from Fremantle to Auckland, which starts on Sunday. Conner will return to the helm of Winston, which is second overall in the W60 class behind the Japanese-New Zealand yacht, Tokio. Conner was on board Winston for the first leg of the race from Southampton to Punta del Este. He sat out the second leg from Punta del Este to Fremantle, as Brad Butterworth took over as skipper. Conner said he will sail the next leg before deciding which of the remaining three legs he will participate in. The race ends in Southampton in July. "I am looking forward to getting back on board," he said.

## Petitbon dismissed

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: The Washington Redskins dismissed their coach, Richie Petitbon, yesterday after he led them to four wins and 12 defeats, their poorest National Football League record since 1963. Petitbon took over after last season following the retirement of Joe Gibbs. Washington, who finished last in the National Football Conference East division, failed to score touchdowns in six games this season.

El Rukek kicked a 38-yard field goal as time expired in overtime on Monday to give the Philadelphia Eagles a 37-34 win over the San Francisco 49ers in the last game of the regular season. The game had no bearing on the play-offs.

## Howard goes to Leeds

RUGBY LEAGUE: Leeds yesterday signed Harvey Howard for around £100,000 in a 2½-year deal, after Widnes had rejected two earlier bids for the unsettled player. The 24-year-old prop forward, who rejected an offer by Sydney Eastern Suburbs in order to move to Headingley, could make his home debut tonight against Castleford. Valuing him at £400,000, Wigan's £400,000 capture from New Zealand, will arrive at Central Park on Friday, but John Dorahy, the Wigan coach, has said the former rugby union winger will have a settling-in period of two or three weeks before making a first appearance, most likely in the Alliance reserves team.

## Goldberger's delight

NORDIC SKIING: Andreas Goldberger, 21, delighted his home crowd by winning a World Cup ski-jumping competition at Innsbruck, Austria, beating his leading rival, Jens Weissflog, of Germany. It was his second straight win in Innsbruck and kept him in the running for the prestigious four hills championship with one jump left, tomorrow at Bischofshofen, also in Austria. Norwegian Sakari Saikku, a hill record, put him firmly on route to his second World Cup win this season, even though Weissflog, 29, outjumped him in the second round.

## India withdraw

HOCKEY: The Great Britain team leaves for Barcelona today for what has now been declared, a three nations tournament because of the late withdrawal of India. According to a new schedule, which the team manager, David Whittle, has rejected as unacceptable, Britain are to play Belgium on Friday and Spain on Sunday, with Spain taking on Belgium on Saturday. Whittle said yesterday that Britain had earlier insisted on Asian opposition. The Los Reyes tournament for clubs is being run concurrently and Hounslow and Southgate, of the Pizza Express National League, are taking part.

### SNOW REPORTS

Location	Depth (cm)	Conditions	Runs to resort	Weather (Spm)	Last snow
ANDORRA Soldeu	45	80 fair varied	fair	cloud	-2 1/1
Upper slopes generally well covered					
AUSTRIA Kitzbühel	30	90 good heavy	worm	cloud	2 2/1
Excellent piste skiing in variable light					
Obergurgl	80	140 good varied	good	cloud	-1 4/1
Great skiing on all pistes					
Saï	20	60 soft worm	good	cloud	2 4/1
Piste skiing remains good after slight snowfall					
FRANCE Alpe d'Huez	140	220 good varied	good	cloud	-3 4/1
New snow in morning making piste skiing excellent					
Avoriaz	140	170 good powder	good	cloud	-4 4/1
Wonderful skiing despite high winds					
Chamonix	110	450 good heavy	good	snow	-2 3/1
Excellent skiing on all pistes above 2000m					
La Plagne	160	320 good heavy	good	snow	-2 3/1
Piste skiing excellent with full coverage of snow					
Mégève	75	150 good varied	fair	snow	3 4/1
Lower runs alight after damp snowfall					
Heavalier 80	220	good heavy	good	snow	1 4/1
Pistes holding up well despite mild weather					
Tignes	150	330 good powder	good	snow	-3 4/1
Continual snowfalls giving vast deep powder					
SWITZERLAND Crans	80	160 powder powder	good	cloud	0 4/1
Skiing conditions superb with little queuing					
Verbier	145	250 good powder	good	snow	1 4/1
Excellent off-piste skiing after overnight snow					
Zermatt	45	190 good heavy	fair	cloud	-4 2/1
Most high runs closed due to high winds					

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper

### CRICKET

COLOMBO: First youth test match first day of tour: England Under-19 158-3 (M Vaughan 56, N Wood 53) v Sri Lanka Under-19.

### DARTS

FRIMLEY GREEN: Embassy world championship (England unless stated): Second round: R. Kenny (4) v N. Gadsby (3-2); S. George (4) v M. Pinner (Wales) (3-1); M. Adams (4) v S. Taylor (Scot) (3-1); M. Carr (Wales) (4) v L. Lawrence (Irel) (3-0).

### FOOTBALL

English Insurance League First division: Postponed: Luton v Millwall.

Second division: Postponed: Swans v Hartlepool.

Scottish League Premier division: Dundee v Dundee (1) 1, 2, 3.

First division: Dundee (1) v Dundee (2) 1, 2, 3.

First division: Dundee (1) v Dundee (2) 1, 2, 3.

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### ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Northwood 2 v Darnley 5; Peterborough 3 v Cardiff 14.

World Junior Championships: Pool C (in Denmark): Denmark 6 v Great Britain (English bred) 4.

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): New York Rangers 3 v Pittsburgh 4; Ottawa 1 v Washington 2.

### RUGBY UNION

SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL MATCH: 18 group: Wales 35 v Scotland 8 (at Llanwrtyd).

### SKI JUMPING

INNSBRUCK, Austria: World Cup: Four hills event: Third leg: 1, A. Goldberger (Austria) 220.2; 2, J. Weissflog (Ger) 229.3; 3, N. Saikku (Fin) 222.2; 4, J. Sakala (Fin) 218.1; 5, E. Brundage (Nor) 217.7; 6, H. Kallio (Fin) 217.7.

### FOOTBALL

Scottish League Premier division: Hearts v Hibernian; Rangers v Celtic.

First division: Hamilton v Stirling; Dundee v Dundee.

TELEVISION SCOTTISH CUP: First round replay: Postponed: Hibernian v Aberdeen.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE: First division: Aston Villa v Coventry (7.0); Bolton v Derby (7.0); Man Utd v Sheff Wed (7.0); Newcastle v Blackburn (7.0); Nottm Forest v Sunderland (7.0); York v Wrexham (7.0).

Second division: Barnley v West Brom (7.0); Bury v Oldham (7.15); Luton v Kidderminster (7.15); Luton v Kidderminster (7.15).

### TABLE TENNIS

THORNHAY: Cleveland Five Star Open: Men's semi-finals: Y. Matsushita (Jpn) 2 v Chen Xinhua (Eng) 21-16, 21-7; A. Colles (Eng) 2 v E. Butler (Aust) 21-7, 21-23, 21-19. First: Matsushita 2 v Chen 21-7, 21-19; Butler 2 v Colles 21-12, 21-8; Matsushita 2 v Butler 21-12, 21-8; Butler 2 v Colles 21-12, 21-8.

Women's semi-finals: O. Koyama (Jpn) 2 v S. Bruguera (Spa) 21-12, 21-8; T. T. Ho (Hkg) 2 v T. T. Ho (Hkg) 21-12, 21-8.

First: Koyama 2 v Bruguera 21-12, 21-8; Ho 2 v Ho 21-12, 21-8.

Second: Koyama 2 v Bruguera 21-12, 21-8; Ho 2 v Ho 21-12, 21-8.

Third: Koyama 2 v Bruguera 21-12, 21-8; Ho 2 v Ho 21-12, 21-8.

Fourth: Koyama 2 v Bruguera 21-12, 21-8; Ho 2 v Ho 21-12, 21-8.

Fifth: Koyama 2 v Bruguera 21-12, 21-8; Ho 2 v Ho 21-12, 21-8.

Sixth: Koyama 2 v Bruguera 21-12, 21-8; Ho 2 v Ho 21-12, 21-8.

Seventh: Koyama 2 v Bruguera 21-12, 21-8; Ho 2 v Ho 21-12, 21-8.

Eighth: Koyama 2 v Bruguera 21-12, 21-8; Ho 2 v Ho 21-12, 21-8.

Ninth: Koyama 2 v Bruguera 21-12, 21-8; Ho 2 v Ho 21-12, 21-8.

Tenth: Koyama 2 v Bruguera 21-12, 21-8; Ho 2 v Ho 21-12, 21-8.

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# Jockey Club clears rider of whip misuse in King George VI Chase

## Murphy wins appeal against ban

By JULIAN MUSCAT

DECLAN Murphy yesterday successfully appealed against the two-day riding ban imposed on him by the Kempton stewards after the King George VI Chase on December 27, in which he finished second on Bradbury Star. The verdict will be seen as a victory for common sense.

A Jockey Club disciplinary committee, chaired by Anthony Mildmay-White, sat for just under an hour before agreeing that Murphy had given Bradbury Star enough time to respond to each of the seven strikes with the whip delivered after the final fence. At the line, Bradbury Star was a head adrift of Barton Bank, ridden by Adri-



Declan Murphy, above, and the incident at Kempton Park which revived the whip debate as he drives Bradbury Star, right, at the finish



Nap: Northern Nation (3.50 Southwell)  
Next best: Have A Nightcap (2.50 Southwell)

an Maguire, who did not contest the two-day ban he received for his own, more strenuous efforts.

This was the third time Murphy had appealed to the disciplinary committee without legal representation, and the third time he has won. The Irish jockey, one of the few who believed he could overturn the original ruling, emerged from the hearing and said: "I didn't really doubt that I'd be cleared."

The case for Murphy's appeal hinged on the interpretation of the relevant clause in the whip instruction, 129, which was introduced in July last year. Most breaches of the instruction have occurred due to misuse or overuse of the whip, but this was the first occasion an appeal has been heard for not allowing a horse time to respond before his jockey used his whip again.

Consequently, Murphy felt this was a test case in that he and many other riders believed he had not breached the

instruction at Kempton. "If this committee said I was guilty, I felt all jockeys would have been in trouble," he explained. "There was a difference of opinion between our interpretation of the whip instruction and that of the stewards of the day. We had to find out who was right."

The committee's findings go a long way toward repairing the tarnished image racing suffered in the aftermath of what has been described as one of the most exciting finishes in the history of the King George. Murphy's two-day ban was greeted with outrage

by many of the sport's professionals. In quashing the ban, the disciplinary committee has demonstrated the flexibility in interpreting the whip instruction demanded by jockeys when the guidelines were framed last year. However, Mildmay-White emphasised he had no intention of reviewing the instruction in spite of impassioned calls to that effect from David Nicholson, the trainer of Barton Bank.

After the hearing, Mildmay-White took the unprecedented decision to discuss the merits of the case. "No rule, or law, is perfect, but this rule has worked extremely well," he said. "It has reduced injury to horses, reduced the number of cases of interference (through horses veering off a true line when under the whip) and it has undoubtedly reduced public concern. Our whip instruction, as is being considered internationally as something of a model."

And he paid tribute to the article published in *The Times* on Monday by the jockey, Jamie Osborne. "It was a good and rational article," Mildmay-White said. "It was well written and well mea-

sured, and made a number of constructive points." However, problems will continue to arise in the interpretation of the instruction, illustrated by the comments of stewards' secretary, Jeremy Ker, who was quoted after the King George as saying: "They [the jockeys] gave mounts no time to respond. It was an open and shut case."

Contrast that with the statement issued by the disciplinary committee: "Although he [Murphy] had hit Bradbury Star seven times without undue severity in the final 15 strides of the race, the horse

was clearly responding to the whip."

Further liaison between the disciplinary committee and racecourse stewards will eventually iron out differing interpretations on most aspects of the whip instruction. However, on the instruction dealing a horse having time to respond to the whip, racecourse stewards face an almost unworkable guideline.

As Murphy himself said after he was exonerated: "Only a jockey can determine how much time a horse needs to respond, or whether the horse has responded or not."

## Kilcash heads British challenge for Ladbroke



Dow: confident

KILCASH, the 8-1 joint-favourite with the sponsors, leads a possible seven British challengers for the Ladbroke, Ireland's richest handicap, at Leopardstown on Saturday. There are 26 declarations for the £160,000 contest.

Kilcash was beaten only a neck by Glendolee 12 months ago in a race his trainer, Peter Hedger, believes he should have won. "He was unlucky," Hedger said yesterday. "He was knocked from pillar to post and didn't even see the last. But you know what to expect the second time around and we're more prepared this time."

"He is a rough customer and if they are going to barge him, he will barge

back. He's in good form and eating well and the rest of the horses are starting to hit form, so that is encouraging."

Simon Dow, the Epsom trainer, is confident Nahar will not be unsettled by the big field and fast pace. "He is tough and will be suited by the way the race is run," he said. "He still seems to be improving and is in good form."

Land Afar, who won the valuable William Hill Handicap at Sandown last month, is reported "very well" by trainer John Webber. "I wouldn't swap mine for any of them," Webber said.

Jeremy Glover believes Arcot could

give a good account of himself but the trainer warned: "He is no certainty to run. He would not run on soft ground as it would blunt his speed. He was unlucky not to have won at Wetherby last time, when he just idled in front, and if he runs he will wear a visor."

The ground could also put a question mark against the Michael Blanshard-trained Welshman. "Our only worry is very heavy going as he has had too many hard races on it," Blanshard's wife, Philippa, said. "But the track at Leopardstown should suit him because there are plenty of bends to keep his interest going."

"In most of his races this term he has had near enough top weight and it

is good to have just ten stone. We are certainly hoping for a place."

The British challenge is completed by Royal Derby and Satin Lover.

THE LADBROKE (handicap hurdle: £600,000 added; 2m 2f) (25 four-day declarations): Royal Derby 11-12, Land Afar 11-3, Kilcash 11-2, Novello Allegro 10-13, Concoro Pan 10-12, How's The Boss 10-10, The Road 10-10, Saint Lover 10-9, Aybak 10-8, Arcot 10-8, Glendolee 10-8, Boodle 10-7, Sharp Inver 10-7, Time For A Run 10-7, Cock Cockburn 10-6, Arcot 10-1, Judicial Field 10-1, Life Saver 10-0, Welshman 10-0, Nahar 9-13, Simon 9-13, Dargyle 9-12, Arcot Weather 9-11, Cockney 9-10, Tetch and Gold 9-10, Koppals Prince 9-10, (lowest weight 9-12). Last season's winners: B-1 Kilcash, Gaelic Myth, The Road, Time For A Run, 10-1 Saint Lover, 12-1 Judicial Field, 14-1 Life Saver, 16-1 Arcot, Land Afar, 20-1 Arcot, Novello Allegro, 25-1 Aybak, Dargyle, Weather, Royal Derby, Sharp Inver, 25-1 others.

AS THE ice hockey season approaches the halfway mark, it seems likely that the British League premier division title will go to Scotland or Wales.

Fife Flyers, Murrayfield Racers and the champions, Cardiff Devils, are beginning to pull away from the rest.

Durham Wasps missed an opportunity to stay in touch, losing 10-5 away to Humber-side Hawks and 8-4 at home to Sheffield Steelers. Only three goals in the final period, when the Steelers had eased up, made the scoreline respectable for the Wasps.

Devils led Basingstoke Beavers 8-2 at the end of the second period, and the teams shared goals in the third as the home side won 13-7 on Sunday in a personal triumph for Rick Brebant, who scored eight goals and had four assists.

Such high-scoring, one-sided games are indicative of the problem facing the sport this season. The enlargement of the premier division to 12 teams and the first division to 16 was not one of the better ideas to come from the British Ice Hockey Association (BIHA) as it spreads the available talent too thin.

The sport still awaits a new sponsor after Heineken withdrew at the end of last season, and the BIHA is also taking its time over the appointment of a great executive.

Great Britain started the season with a disappointing

## Lewis can expect autumn bout with Holyfield

By SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT

LENNOX Lewis can expect to box for the unified world heavyweight championship this year. Evander Holyfield, the World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation champion, announced in Atlanta yesterday that he would meet Lewis, the World Boxing Council champion, in November.

Holyfield, who was thinking of retirement, said he had decided to carry on to unify the title. His next bout would be in May against Michael Moore, the mandatory challenger. If Moore were to win, Lewis could expect to meet him in November, as he is managed by Main Events, the American promotions group that works with Lewis.

Frank Maloney, Lewis's manager, was informed about Holyfield's plans by telephone from Atlanta by Dan Duva, Holyfield's promoter. Maloney said yesterday: "Holyfield has decided not to retire because he wants to unify the title. Lennox will fight Holyfield in November."

He can expect to fight Moore if he wins, but I have to get that one signed up. This means that Lennox will have two fights in April and then in July or August against Oliver McCull, the WBC mandatory challenger. I would like to keep Lennox busy."

Lewis expects to sign a \$20 million (£14 million) three-contest deal next week with Home Box Office (HBO), the leading cable television company in the United States.

"I have to see the financial package is all right," Maloney said. "Already Lennox has seen \$7 million disappear out of the window. I expect that new package to be around \$20 million. Seth Abraham [head of HBO] is coming next week to talk about it."

Lewis was expected to receive \$7 million from a contest with Tommy Morrison, but Morrison saw his World Boxing Organisation crown and an accompanying fortune disappear when he was surprisingly beaten by Michael Bentt, who is soon to defend that title against Herbie Hide, the British champion.

The April opponent for Lewis has yet to be decided, but among those on HBO's approved list are Ray Mercer, the former WBO champion, Phil Jackson, Jeremy Williams and Corrie Sanders, the South African savant.

Floyd Havard, of Wales, the

forgotten man of British boxing, gets his big chance when he meets Juan Molina, the International Boxing Federation super featherweight champion, at Sophia Gardens, Cardiff, on January 22.

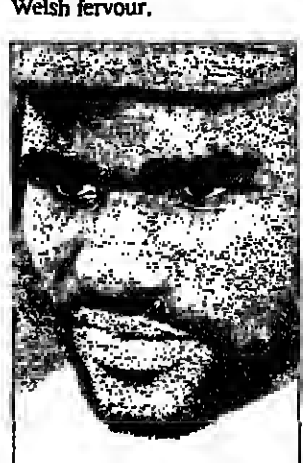
Havard, 38, who has had 26 bouts and lost only one on a hand injury, was one of the bright prospects when he turned professional eight years ago. But an injury to his right hand bedevilled his career, causing him to lose the British title he had won from Pat Cowdell in 1985. Havard dropped out of boxing in 1989 for 18 months. He has had only five contests in the last three years - three in 1991, one in 1992 and one in 1993.

Molina, a Puerto Rican, who has lost three of 35 contests, was not too happy about coming to Britain, but decided to make the trip when Maloney agreed to a £140,000 package, thus luring Molina away from home for the first time.

"I know he doesn't want to come to Cardiff, and obviously that's going to be beneficial to Floyd," Kevin Hayde, Maloney's promotional partner in Wales, said. "Molina's not going to be happy about building up to a big fight with the kind of weather we are getting at the moment."

"There's been lots of rain, it's cold and, you never know, it might snow by the time he gets here. The Welsh crowd will get behind Floyd and, while Molina will get the proper respect, he really won't be welcome."

Hayde has been given clearance by the local council and fire brigade to increase the capacity of the Welsh Institute for Sport from 1,300 to 2,000 to expose Molina to a full salvo of Welsh fervour.



Holyfield: boxing on

## League spreads talent too thin

By NORMAN DE MESQUITA

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Great Britain started the season with a disappointing

display in the Olympic elimination tournament at Sheffield, in which the strength of Slovakia and Latvia was too great for the British, and the short-sighted inclusion of several veteran players gave no pointer as to how the team might fare on their return to Pool A of the world championships in Italy in April.

The new year honours in British ice hockey must go to Peterborough Pirates. Despite facing the likelihood that their rink would be closed for good, started 1994 in the best possible way, beating Bracknell Bees 7-6.

TABLE

Premier division				
Club	P	W	L	Pts
Cardiff	22	17	5	54
Fife	22	16	6	52
Murrayfield	22	15	7	51
Sheffield	22	14	8	46
Durham	22	12	10	36
Nottingham	22	10	12	30
Whitley Bay	22	9	13	27
Humberston	22	9	13	26
Basingstoke	22	8	14	24
Bracknell	22	6	16	18
Peterborough	22	4	18	12
Birmingham	22	3	19	9

First division				
Club	P	W	L	Pts
Milton Keynes	22	17	5	54
Telford	22	16	6	52
Blackburn	22	15	7	51
Trafford	22	14	8	46
Sheffield	22	13	9	42
Dumfries	22	10	12	30
Paisley	22	9	13	27
Oldham	22	8	14	24
Southern Conference				
Slough	22	17	5	54
Worcester	22	16	6	52
Reading	22	15	7	51
Guildford	22	14	8	46
Stratford	22	13	9	42
Chesham	22	12	10	36
Stratford	22	11	11	33
Lee Valley	22	10	12	30

## Moore decides to delay retirement

CHARLIE Moore has been threatening retirement for some seasons, but two victories in four days from Medbury, at Lingfield, have given him a new lease of life after recently renewing his licence.

Medbury followed up last Saturday's course and distance win when making all in the Shelley Handicap under apprentice Lee Carter.

Carter showed again that he is worth his 7lb claim with a cool front-running ride, keeping a little up his sleeve to resist a strong late run from Alastairawave.

Moore, who saddled 11 winners on the Flat last season, said: "We had to beat the handicapper by running again today, but the horse is improving."

The familiar combination of Bill and Emma O'Gorman

won the Keats Handicap with Midnight Jazz.

O'Gorman had to switch the big colt to the outside on the home turn and the four-year-old did well to catch the favourite, Diakette. In the final furlong, turning a four-length deficit into a three-quarters of a length success.

The trainer said: "He has always seemed so slow to us that we have made use of him, but this may be the way to ride him."

Robert Parsons has taken over as agent to Richard Dunwoody, the champion jockey. Parsons, 32, has been agent for Richard Quinn, the Flat jockey, since May 1990 and has helped to boost several of Quinn's winners.

Dunwoody split with his previous agent, Robert Kingdon, last month.

## Jingfield Park

Going standard  
00 (5) 1. BRIGHT THINGS (M Adams, 10-30); 2. Molehill (P Jones, 10-30); 3. Pleading Time (A Mackay, 7-1); 4. Also Ran: 10-11 Lay's Flyer (50), 10-12 Superspark Baby (50), 25 Miss E (50), 10-13 (5), 10-14 (5), 10-15 (5), 10-16 (5), 10-17 (5), 10-18 (5), 10-19 (5), 10-20 (5), 10-21 (5), 10-22 (5), 10-23 (5), 10-24 (5), 10-25 (5), 10-26 (5), 10-27 (5), 10-28 (5), 10-29 (5), 10-30 (5), 10-31 (5), 10-32 (5), 10-33 (5), 10-34 (5), 10-35 (5), 10-36 (5), 10-37 (5), 10-38 (5), 10-39 (5), 10-40 (5), 10-41 (5), 10-42 (5), 10-43 (5), 10-44 (5), 10-45 (5), 10-46 (5), 10-47 (5), 10-48 (5), 10-49 (5), 10-50 (5), 10-51 (5), 10-52 (5), 10-53 (5), 10-54 (5), 10-55 (5), 10-56 (5), 10-57 (5), 10-58 (5), 10-59 (5), 10-60 (5), 10-61 (5), 10-62 (5), 10-63 (5), 10-64 (5), 10-65 (5), 10-66 (5), 10-67 (5), 10-68 (5), 10-69 (5), 10-70 (5), 10-71 (5), 10-72 (5), 10-73 (5), 10-74 (5), 10-75 (5), 10-76 (5), 10-77 (5), 10-78 (5), 10-79 (5), 10-80 (5), 10-81 (5), 10-82 (5), 10-83 (5), 10-84 (5), 10-85 (5), 10-86 (5), 10-87 (5), 10-88 (5), 10-89 (5), 10-90 (5), 10-91 (5), 10-92 (5), 10-93 (5), 10-94 (5), 10-95 (5), 10-96 (5), 10-97 (5), 10-98 (5), 10-99 (5), 10-100 (5), 10-101 (5), 10-102 (5), 10-103 (5), 10-104 (5), 10-105 (5), 10-106 (5), 10-107 (5), 10-108 (5), 10-109 (5), 10-110 (5), 10-111 (5), 10-112 (5), 10-113 (5), 10-114 (5), 10-115 (5), 10-116 (5), 10-117 (5), 10-118 (5), 10-119 (5), 10-120 (5), 10-121 (5), 10-122 (5), 10-123 (5), 10-124 (5), 10-125 (5), 10-126 (5), 10-127 (5), 10-128 (5), 10-129 (5), 10-130 (5), 10-131 (5), 10-132 (5), 10-133 (5), 10-134 (5), 10-135 (5), 10-136 (5), 10-137 (5), 10-138 (5), 10-139 (5), 10-140 (5), 10-141 (5), 10-142 (5), 10-143 (5), 10-144 (5), 10-145 (5), 10-146 (5), 10-147 (5), 10-148 (5), 10-149 (5), 10-150 (5), 10-151 (5), 10-152 (5), 10-153 (5), 10-154 (5), 10-155 (5), 10-156 (5), 10-157 (5), 10-158 (5), 10-159 (5), 10-160 (5), 10-161 (5), 10-162 (5), 10-163 (5), 10-164 (5), 10-165 (5), 10-166 (5), 10-167 (5), 10-168 (5), 10-169 (5), 10-170 (5), 10-171 (5), 10-172 (5), 10-173 (5), 10-174 (5), 10-175 (5), 10-176 (5), 10-177 (5), 10-178 (5), 10-179 (5), 10-180 (5), 10-181 (5), 10-182 (5), 10-183 (5), 10-184 (5), 10-185 (5), 10-186 (5), 10-187 (5), 10-188 (5), 10-189 (5), 10-190 (5), 10-191 (5), 10-192 (5), 10-193 (5), 10-194 (5), 10-195 (5), 10-196 (5), 10-197 (5), 10-198 (5), 10-199 (5), 10-200 (5), 10-201 (5), 10-202 (5), 10-203 (5), 10-204 (5), 10-205 (5), 10-206 (5), 10-207 (5), 10-208 (5), 10-209 (5), 10-210 (5), 10-211 (5), 10-212 (5), 10-213 (5), 10-214 (5), 10-215 (5), 10-216 (5), 10-217 (5), 10-218 (5), 10-219 (5), 10-220 (5), 10-221 (5), 10-222 (5), 10-223 (5), 10-224 (5), 10-225 (5), 10-226 (5), 10-227 (5), 10-228 (5), 10-229 (5), 10-230 (5), 10-231 (5), 10-232 (5), 10-233 (5), 10-234 (5), 10-235 (5), 10-236 (5), 10-237 (5), 10-238 (5), 10-239 (5), 10-240 (5), 10-241 (5), 10-242 (5), 10-243 (5), 10-244 (5), 10-245 (5), 10-246 (5), 10-247 (5), 10-248 (5), 10-249 (5), 10-250 (5), 10-251 (5), 10-252 (5), 10-253 (5), 10-254 (5), 10-255 (5), 10-256 (5), 10-257 (5), 10-258 (5), 10-259 (5), 10-260 (5), 10-261 (5), 10-262 (5), 10-263 (5), 10-264 (5), 10-265 (5), 10-266 (5), 10-267 (5), 10-268 (5), 10-269 (5), 10-270 (5), 10-271 (5), 10-272 (5), 10-273 (5), 10-274 (5), 10-275 (5), 10-276 (5), 10-277 (5), 10-278 (5), 10-279 (5), 10-280 (5), 10-281 (5), 10-282 (5), 10-283 (5), 10-284 (5), 10-285 (5), 10-286 (5), 10-287 (5), 10-288 (5), 10-289 (5), 10-290 (5), 10-291 (5), 10-292 (5), 10-293 (5), 10-294 (5), 10-295 (5), 10-296 (5), 10-297 (5), 10-298 (5), 10-299 (5), 10-300 (5), 10-301 (5), 10-302 (5), 10-303 (5), 10-304 (5), 10-305 (5), 10-306 (5), 10-307 (5), 10-308 (5), 10-309 (5), 10-310 (5), 10-311 (5), 10-312 (5), 10-313 (5), 10-314 (5), 10-315 (5), 10-316 (5), 10-317 (5), 10-318 (5), 10-319 (5), 10-320 (5), 10-321 (5), 10-322 (5), 10-323 (5), 10-324 (5), 10-325 (5), 10-326 (5), 10-327 (5), 10-328 (5), 10-329 (5), 10-330 (5), 10-331 (5), 10-332 (5), 10-333 (5), 10-334 (5), 10-335 (5), 10-336 (5), 10-337 (5), 10-338 (5), 10-339 (5), 10-340 (5), 10-341 (5), 10-342 (5), 10-343 (5), 10-344 (5), 10-345 (5), 10-346 (5), 10-347 (5), 10-348 (5), 10-349 (5), 10-350 (5), 10-351 (5), 10-352 (5), 10-353 (5), 10-354 (5), 10-355 (5), 10-356 (5), 10-357 (5), 10-358 (5), 10-359 (5), 10-360 (5), 10-361 (5), 10-362 (5), 10-363 (5), 10-364 (5), 10-365 (5), 10-366 (5), 10-367 (5), 10-368 (5), 10-369 (5), 10-370 (5), 10-371 (5), 10-372 (5), 10-373 (5), 10-374 (5), 10-375 (5), 10-376 (5), 10-377 (5), 10-378 (5), 10-379 (5), 10-380 (5), 10-381 (5), 10-382 (5), 10-383 (5), 10-384 (5), 10-385 (5), 10-386 (5), 10-387 (5), 10-388 (5), 10-389 (5), 10-390 (5), 10-391 (5), 10-392 (5), 10-393 (5), 10-394 (5), 10-395 (5), 10-396 (5), 10-397 (5), 10-







BBC2

**12.20 FILM: U2 - Rattle and Hum** (1988, colour and b/w). Documentary account of U2 on their *Joshua Tree* world tour. Directed by Phil Joanou (s) (160999). Ends 2.00

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### Television's I

**Dispatches**  
Channel 4 9.00pm

they have no mono

**The Really Wild Show**  
PG/14 3pm

Michaela Strachan and even D

Watkins, bespectacled, enthusiastic and first sighted up a tree making mysterious howling noises. The locations include Belize in Central America where poor farmers have got together to help save the black howler monkey. They have done so by not cutting down trees. Good for them. Moths are also on the bill, as are South African wild dogs. And in emulation of the dung beetle two teams of youngsters compete to roll huge balls of (simulated) excrement towards a hole. As elsewhere on this jolly show, fun and instruction run side by side. **Peter Wyman**

CHANNEL 4

**8.00 Das O'Connor Tonight.** Tonight's guests are Naomi Campbell and Phillip Schofield with music from Phil Collins and Wet Wet Wet. (s) (2589)

**9.00 The Bill.** Julie Graham in the first of a superb crime drama series. (Teletex) (s) (2655)

**6.00 News at Ten** (Teletex) and weather (5875) **10.30 London Tonight** (588393)

**0.40 FILM: Predator** (1897), starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. Members of an elite group of soldiers are sent to a jungle in the United States. American jungle are killed one by one by an unseen alien: enemy. Directed by John McTiernan (32402653)

**2.40em The Equalizer.** American crime series, starring Edward Woodward. A woman has trouble convincing people she witnessed a murder in a New York back because she is a body from the States.

**1.30 Hollywood Report.** News and gossip from America's film capital (s) (5148)

**2.00 Chronicle's Style Guide.** A repeat of this afternoon's programme (s) (76506)


**2.30 The Album Show.** Lynn Parsons presents the best-selling albums of 1993 (s) (97222)

**3.30 Family Theatre.** A young orphan wins his battle to save his mother (s) (520245)

**4.30 America's Top Ten** (s) (36341)

**5.00 Riviera.** French drama series (99998)

**5.30 ITN Morning News** (76322) Ends at 8.00



**A Croat in the Bosnian city of Mostar (9.00pm)**

## SATEL

DIO 2: FM 88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4:  
80-82/830m. LBC: 1152k-hz/251m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL:  
MW 648k-hz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM 100-102. VIRGIN:  
COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY



## Everton approach for new manager turned down

## Norwich fight to keep Walker

By Peter Ball

EVERTON'S attempt to make Mike Walker their new manager ran into determined resistance from Norwich City yesterday. Robert Chase, the Norwich chairman, refused Everton permission to approach Walker.

For the moment, Everton have accepted Chase's decision but a statement by Dr David Marsh, the Everton chairman, left the door open. After confirming he had made an initial approach to Chase, Marsh said: "We now await developments. In the meantime, Everton are happy to give an undertaking requested by Mr Chase not to make any indirect approach to Mr Walker."

"Everton FC has always conducted matters of this nature in the correct manner and, even though we are anxious to resolve our management problem with all possible haste, we respect the situation of Norwich City and appreciate their reluctance to lose their manager."

The matter, however, is unlikely to end there. "The ball is very much in Norwich's court," Jim Greenwood, the Everton chief executive, said yesterday. "Presumably, the manager and club will now sit down and discuss the situation and issue a statement."

Walker was expected to discuss the approach with Chase before Norwich's game with Newcastle United last night and there were suggestions that he would consider resigning if Chase did not allow him to talk to Everton. It is believed on Merseyside that he will be at Goodison Park for talks today.

"I would certainly be interested to hear what they have to say," Walker said. "It doesn't mean that I am going to leave or anything like that, but when an offer from a club like that comes in, it makes sense to talk to them."

Walker has gained a considerable reputation for his achievements with Norwich, where he has spent two years in charge. He has guided them into Europe for the first time and they impressed everyone with their sophistication in unknown territory this season, when they produced one of the most outstanding performances by an English club side when they became the first English team to beat Bayern Munich in Germany. As impressive as the success was the manner of their performances. Under Walker's



Walker, the Norwich City manager, wants to talk to Everton officials before making a decision on whether to stay at Carrow Road

er's tutelage, the Norwich players have played progressive, passing football with a high degree of technical ability, indicating that English players can match the technique of European sides given the right environment.

That is likely to be an important consideration for Everton, who have basked in the name "The School of Science" for years and whose fans have always demanded skill and entertainment as much as results.

Although Everton are understood to be offering in the

region of £150,000 a year, Norwich agreed at a board meeting on Monday to offer Walker a new contract with a 40 per cent pay rise that, with bonuses for qualifying for Europe, would comfortably outstrip Everton's offer. He also has a better team at Norwich than he will inherit at Goodison, although Everton's potential may tilt the balance in their favour.

Norwich, however, seem certain to try to block the move, with Chase threatening legal action if Everton had refused to give the undertaking

he required. "I made it quite clear to Dr Marsh that, if I didn't get that assurance, we would be taking action in the High Court this morning to prevent them making an approach," Chase said.

The matter has not been helped by the comments of Bill Kenwright, one of the Everton directors and a spokesman for a consortium bidding for the club, that Everton expected to have a new manager today. "This business has been running on for weeks and now they are saying they want it resolved because they have an

important FA Cup tie on Saturday," Chase said.

"It may have escaped their notice that we have an important tie against Wycombe Wanderers in the same competition and, before that, we have an even more important Premiership game against Newcastle. The timing of their move could hardly have been more insensitive."

Everton's need is increasingly pressing. Since Howard Kendall resigned in frustration at the beginning of December, when he was refused the money to buy Dion Dublin

from Manchester United, the side has drawn one and lost six matches and plummeted down the Premiership table.

The imminent takeover by either Kenwright's consortium or Peter Johnson, the present chairman of Tranmere Rovers, means that the purse strings will be loosened for the new manager. Kenwright has said his group would release up to £7 million for team rebuilding and Johnson is believed to have an even larger sum in mind.

Wise waits, page 32

England A's  
successful  
run ends with  
heavy defeat

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN DURBAN

A HEAVY defeat is often more valuable than a comfortable victory. However much England A wanted to extend their winning sequence, this humbling by Natal today yet teaches the players more than another thin win. The challenge now is to respond in positive fashion on Friday, when they meet Northern Transvaal in Pretoria.

If an innings and 57 runs suggests England were outplayed, the chasm is not misleading. Natal batted with greater discretion when Hugh Morris inserted them, bowled a more searching line and fielded much better. Malcolm Marshall, who led them most ably, was entitled to believe they have the makings of an outstanding young side.

The last time he faced an England side, he recalled, West Indies lost the fifth Test match of the 1991 series at the Oval. On that occasion, the West Indian batting was as undistinguished as England's here, where only Crawley, Loye and Bicknell revealed the fighting qualities the situation demanded.

It is fair to say that with Crawley's dismissal for 81, in the eighth over of the day, went England's hopes of saving the game. He had played so well on Monday afternoon that to go as he did, caught at slip carrying a wide ball for the second time in the match, he cannot avoid criticism. The greater the talent, the heavier the responsibility.

Benkenstein, the successful bowler, is a cricketer people will hear more of, for, at 19, time is on his side. Klesener, the Zululand batsman, can expect further opportunities after taking four wickets to finish the match with seven for 98.

Marshall entrusted him with the new ball the moment it was available. In his second over with it, Dale gave a surprisingly tame return catch off the leading edge. Rhodes, chasing a ball he should have ignored, followed before lunch when Loye, who was 27 over-night, had reached 65.

While they were together, Loye and Bicknell, who used Lathwell as his runner, showed how far a bit of common sense could go. Compulsive hooker, though he is,

Loye kept most of his strokes on the grass and he was not alone in his disappointment when, attempting to sweep Crookes, he gloved a catch to Goodale. He gloved a catch to Goodale.

That was a belated triumph for the off spinner, who would have sizzled Loye for two, instead of 68, had Goodale not made a mess of a routine stumping chance the previous day. Loye was helped a bit at Cape Town, where he also made 68, by some shocking fielding. If he did not throw away a century there, then he did here.

Crookes, who ended Bicknell's contribution to this match, and the four, again, took four wickets in the innings. Perhaps more than the other bowlers, he benefited

NATAL: First innings 258 for 8 dec (C R B Armstrong 67, D M Benkenstein 95, O J Watson 57).  
ENGLAND A 25: First innings 118 (D N Crookes 4 for 52).

Second innings  
M N Lathwell c Rhys to Crookes 38  
H Morris c Benkenstein b Pollock 26  
J P Crawley c Watson b Benkenstein 81  
A S Dale c Watson b Crookes 20  
M B Loye c Goodale b Crookes 68  
A Dale 5 and b Klesener 2  
J Bicknell c Goodale b Klesener 22  
M P Bicknell c Crookes 2  
O Gough not out 0  
J J MacGregor c Goodale b Klesener 0  
P M Such c Wright b Klesener 2  
Extras (b 6, lb 2) 14  
Total 285

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-82, 2-70, 3-104, 4-204, 5-218, 6-262, 7-275, 8-282, 9-283.  
BOWLING: Marshall 28-9-50-0, Klesener 21-6-21-4, Crookes 45-10-124-4, Pollock 16-4-37-1, Benkenstein 10-3-10-1.  
Umpires: W Dicks and O Orchard.

from the pressure Natal's total put England under. By bowling as slowly as he did, he was almost taunting them.

From the time Bicknell pulled up on Saturday morning with an intercostal injury, necessitating his passage home today, England have been on the wrong end of things for the first time on this tour. They will have today off as a "period of grace", to think about things. Phil Neale, the team manager, said:

"I am not a great believer in 'naughty-boy' nets," he said. "All the same, I want the players to remember what this defeat felt like. It will strengthen our resolve not to let it happen again."

Westies injured, page 34

## Duffy pinpoints reason for Dundee defeat

Kilmarnock..... 1  
Dundee..... 0

By a Correspondent

KILMARNOCK'S surprising success story continued yesterday in advance of Saturday's return to Ibrox, where they have enjoyed their best results this season. A single goal from Shaun McKimming, his first in the premier division, left Dundee looking back on their thirteenth single-goal defeat of the season.

Jim Duffy, the Dundee player-manager, had no excuses, or doubts about who

was to blame for the defeat: "We gave away a silly corner and it was definitely my fault for not picking up the scorer at the near post," he said. "They gave us a lesson as to what is required in order to win games in Scottish football. We shall see if the players heed it now, but they are running out of time."

Relegation is a real danger for Dundee. Kilmarnock's opening half-hour was as near to total domination as they are likely to achieve all season. A 23-yard shot from Brown that sneaked a foot past a post set the tone before Mitchell

struck a dangerous volley after a lovely three-man move, and McKimming was denied by Mathers, the Dundee goalkeeper. McKimming also had another chance from a Reilly corner, but failed to get a necessary weight on his volley, before a 30-yard drive from Black saw Mathers produce a spectacular save.

Dundee had been standing off their opponents too often, their passing was also below par and it seemed only a matter of time before they would go a goal down. They survived until half-time, thanks largely to Kilmarnock easing down a gear or two.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rangers	25	12	8	5	42	28	32
Aberdeen	24	10	11	3	32	18	31
Motherwell	24	12	8	8	32	24	30
Celtic	24	9	10	5	30	21	29
Hibernian	24	10	7	7	34	28	27
Kilmarnock	25	8	11	8	22	21	27
Dundee Utd	24	8	12	6	24	25	24
Partick	24	8	9	9	28	21	21
Hearts	24	5	10	9	18	24	20
St Johnstone	23	5	8	10	19	30	18
Falkirk	23	4	10	9	25	38	18
Dundee	24	4	4	16	22	36	12

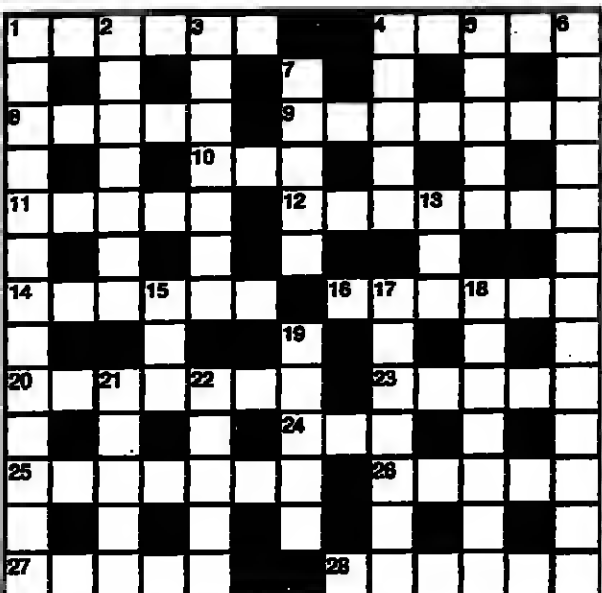
The Kilmarnock supporters need not have worried, however, for a minute after the interval, McKimming struck. A delightful turn and

pass from Brown invited the forward to run at three defenders. He did and they conceded a corner. This time, when Reilly's cross arrived, McKimming rose unchallenged to head high into the net.

After the goal, Dundee switched things around, moving Dadds up front, but with Duffy looking out of sorts — twice, within a 30-second spell, he gave the ball away to Mitchell inside his penalty box — more and more of Dadds' teammates were forced to scurry back to cover their lines as Kilmarnock regained control.

All four substitutes were used, Weighforth of Dundee, making the most startling contribution, receiving the game's only yellow card before even touching the ball, for hauling back the runaway Black. It was an all too appropriate comment on the plight of Dundee, who trail Raith Rovers by six points at the bottom of the table.

KILMARNOCK (4-4-2): B Gordon — G MacPherson, A Milne, R Montgomery, I Stuck — A Marshall, M Kelly, I Burns (sub); C Paterson, 66 mins, A McShann, 63, Brown, O Christie (sub); I Porteous, 63.  
DUNDEE (4-4-2): P Mathers — B Reid, R Black, J Duffy, O Vito — W Dadds, R Farrington, G McEwan, C Dochowale (sub); M Wilson, 73 — O Reilly (sub); J McCulloch, 81, P Reilly.  
Referee: GA Evans.



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TIMES TWO  
CROSSWORD

No 54

## ACROSS

- 1 Wife of Priam (6)
- 4 Unbending (5)
- 8 Gets under the skin of (5)
- 9 Mien (7)
- 10 Top of stove; mischievous spirit (3)
- 11 Poppy drug (5)
- 12 Jealous man destroyed by lago (7)
- 14 Merciful, civilised (6)
- 16 Port near mouth of Don (6)
- 20 Omen, forecast (7)
- 23 Subject, theme (5)
- 24 Head; jack; upper-class person (3)
- 25 List one by one (7)
- 26 Site of 1836 Texas massacre (5)
- 27 Cupidity (5)
- 28 Thin gruel (6)

## DOWN

- 1 With ear function impaired (4,2,7)
- 2 Element essential to bones, teeth (7)
- 3 Kalahari native (7)
- 4 Open stretch of river (5)
- 5 Interrogate (5)
- 6 World War II self-sufficiency slogan (3,3,7)
- 7 Head of religious house (5)
- 13 Currency-fixing system (1,1,1)
- 15 Killer of Cleopatra (3)
- 17 Remote parts of Australia (7)
- 18 Canvas spread from top-mast yard (7)
- 19 Item of belief (5)
- 21 Kid leather (5)
- 22 Homeric epic (5)

## SOLUTION TO NO 53

ACROSS: 1 Aesid 4 Broach 8 Cowslip 10 Naked 11 Flood 12 Anywhere 14 Nervous 18 Monoglot 20 Flap 22 Audit 23 Spenser 24 Trying 25 Galaxy  
DOWN: 1 Accept 2 New moon 3 Ills 5 Renowned 6 Arkle 7 Hidden 9 Ponderous 13 Brighton 15 Silesia 16 Impart 17 Sporty 19 Noddy 21 Here

## By Raymond Keene

Today's problem is from the game Bareev Speedmen Hastings Premier 1991. Evgeny Bareev, the young Russian Grandmaster, has been the clear or joint winner of the last three years' Hastings Premier tournaments. How did he finish off Black here? Tomorrow sees the last round of this year's Hastings Premier. For details ring 0424 445348.



Solution, page 34

## By Philip Howard

## BOTTLEAGE

- a. Drawing wine into bottles
- b. The age of a vintage
- c. Tying in bundles

## ALOUT

- a. The screech owl
- b. To stoop
- c. To wander riotously

## VOTEEN

- a. A religious person
- b. Votes for teenagers
- c. A small rowing boat

## YAPOCK

- a. Australian coin-tossing
- b. A water opossum
- c. A type of coarse linen

Answers on page 34

Getting affordable  
private health care  
is easy. All you need  
is 27 bones,  
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